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Ontario

TRAVEL DISCOVERIES FALL 2004

PREMIERE ISSUE

fall FOR ONTARIO

Wine Country 'nose' how
Fine fall wines and food

Fall's a colourful stage
Ontario's fall performances

650 places
to get 'teed' off
Golf Ontario style

FALL of the
WILD
Great Escapes

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Georgetown (Halton Hills)
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Kenora
Kincardine
Kingston
London (2)
Marathon
Midland
Newmarket

Niagara Falls (3)
Niagara Falls Area (Welland)
North Bay
Orillia
Ottawa (3)
Ottawa Area (Hull-Gatineau)
Owen Sound
Parry Sound
Pembroke
Peterborough
Sarnia
Sault Ste. Marie

Scarborough
Sikorski
Smiths Falls
Sudbury
Thunder Bay (2)
Toronto (3)
Toronto Airport Area
(Mississauga) (2)
Toronto Area (Richmond Hill)
Waterloo (St. Jacobs Area)
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fall for Ontario

Welcome to the inaugural edition of *inOntario*, the magazine that inspires curious travellers to discover all that is unique and surprising in our wonderful province. From the relaxing and soothing treatment of a spa, to the raucous chorus of a world-class musical, Ontario transcends your average travel experience.

Our premiere issue of *inOntario* invites you to succumb to the spell of fall's romance and indulge in our province's signature wonders: the crimson and gold forests, fun and exciting fall festivals, world-renowned vineyards, fabulous theatre, culinary treats and, of course, our great cities and towns.

Discover and rediscover this province's greatness. An empire of accessible geography. A land brimming with adventures to turn simple pleasures into long-lasting memories.

The emotional connections people make with Ontario constantly surprise us and we love hearing about them. Take a look at the Your Ontario section in this magazine and send us your fascinating travel stories – they may end up in an upcoming issue!

Discovering Ontario is not only about the breathtaking scenery. It's about connecting. Through this new magazine, we'll connect you to the 'best in class' experiences that will stir your soul and fire your imagination. You'll get a taste of the best sights, boutiques, events, cuisine and places to stay. In short, the best of everything.



Features

WINE COUNTRY 'NOSE' HOW

Rolling hills, wine tours and world-class vintages 26

650 PLACES TO GET 'TEED OFF'

Fall is tee time for golf lovers 32

ROMANCING THE FALL

Capture the vibrant hues of our gorgeous fall countryside 38

FALL'S A COLOURFUL STAGE

The stage is set for performances of all shapes and sizes 46

WINGING IT

Ontario's feathered friends say adieu 56

GET HOOKED ON A FEELIN'

Reel in the joys of catching a big one in Ontario's great outdoors 66

GET THE MOST OF THE GHOSTS

Goosebumps in the night, pumpkins on the porch and kids stuffed with goodies 70

wine country

'nose' how

26



Contents

Departments

YOUR ONTARIO

Share your Ontario moments with travellers, just like yourself 8

FALL FOR ONTARIO

Celebrate nature's palette overflowing with colour and romance this season 12

HERE AND NOW

Delve into new and unique events, attractions and places to stay and shop in Ontario. Look here for the best of every season 14

Continued on page 6.



Fall's a
Colourful Stage

46

11

Exciting Reasons for You to Visit London, Ontario's Heritage Sites



1 LONDON MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

Experience the archaeology, art and history of First Nations people in the partially reconstructed 500-year old Iroquoian village. The Museum

has traveling and permanent displays and crafts. Come and enjoy the rebuilt long house and experience the interpretive centre. www.uwo.ca/museum



2 FANSHAWE PIONEER VILLAGE

Experience life in our 19th century Village. Walk through 100 years of time from the first log home of Tipperary Irish immigrants to a turn of the century town. Stay for lunch at 4 and 20 Blackbirds Bakery and Cafe and choose a unique gift at Denfield General Store. www.fanshawepioneervillage.ca



3 LONDON REGIONAL CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Enjoy this hands-on interactive museum designed for children from infancy to 12 years-old and their grown-ups. This was the first children's museum in Canada when it was established 28 years ago. Enjoy the brand new Space and Science Galleries, loaded with hands-on exhibits and educational experiences. www.londonchildrensmuseum.ca



4 THE ROYAL CANADIAN REGIMENT MUSEUM

The RCR is Canada's senior Regular Force infantry regiment, having served this country proudly since 1883. Follow the exploits of the Regiment through the North-West Rebellion, South Africa, the mud of Flanders, the mountains of Italy, the hills of Korea and on peacekeeping missions around the world. The museum is housed in Wolseley Hall, erected in 1886 as a barracks. www.rcrmuseum.ca



5 MUSEUM LONDON

Experience London's exciting heritage with a visit to Eldon House and Museum London. Eldon House, built in 1834, is the oldest surviving residence in London and contains original family heirlooms and furnishings. Museum London features *The Forest City*, an exhibition that tells the history of London and region, and is located at the Forks of the heritage-designated Thames River. www.museumlondon.ca



6 6TH HUSSARS MUSEUM

This museum commemorates the regiment best known for its D-Day landings on the shores of France in June, 1944. Explore the museum's artifacts, housed in London's most imposing structure. The former courthouse was built in 1829 under the direction of Colonel Thomas Talbot.

www.firsthussars.ca



7 BANTING HOUSE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

The 'birthplace of insulin' commemorates the site of the defining moment in the discovery of insulin and international hero, Sir Frederick Banting. Exhibits feature the artistic and scientific careers of this extraordinary Canadian. www.diabetes.ca/Section_About/BantingIndex.asp



8 THE SECRETS OF RADAR MUSEUM

During WWII, 6000 Canadian soldiers who served on Radar stations around the world were sworn to an oath of Secrecy until 1991. Come discover their incredible story, and Radar's role in your everyday life. www.secretsofradar.com



9 CANADIAN MEDICAL HALL OF FAME

Visit The Canadian Medical Hall of Fame's Laureate portrait gallery, lively biographical sketches, feature exhibits, and interactive multimedia stations. For those with an interest in Canada's medical past. www.cdnmedhall.org



10 ORCHESTRA LONDON CANADA

One of Canada's finest professional orchestras, proudly presents an array of music to take your breath away. From Bach to rock, Orchestra London has something for everyone. www.orchestralondon.ca



11 WESTERN FAIR MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

Visitors to The Western Fair's Museum and Archives will find a wide assortment of artifacts, photographs, medals, maps and other unique exhibits which provides an abundance of information about the Western Fair and the community it serves. www.westernfair.com/about-history.html



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contents

FALL OF THE WILD

Great Escapes

76

Exclusively Ours

73



A toast to October

Kitchener's Oktoberfest

24



Continued from page 4.

EVENT FULL

Fall fairs and food festivals top the list in our selection of upcoming events 24

EXCLUSIVELY OURS

Whether you're looking for an ATV adventure, painting in the great outdoors, or a romantic weekend in the city, Ontario has a variety of vacation packages for you 73

GREAT ESCAPES

Let these vacation getaways inspire you to attend an event, see our best fall attractions, and maybe stay a night or two in a resort, bed and breakfast, hotel, motel or inn 76

LOOKING AHEAD

It's never too early to plan for a winter getaway 94

THE SOURCE

We have all the resources you need to help plan your trip 97

CLASSIFIEDS

Buy, sell and trade travel essentials 102

ADVERTISERS' INDEX

Looking for the perfect place to stay, dine or be entertained? Here's where you'll find it 104

ONTARIO TRIVIA

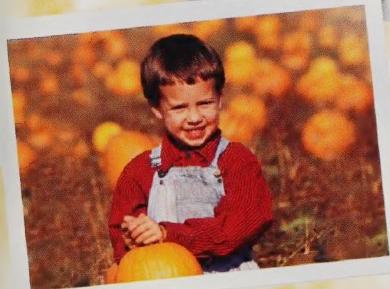
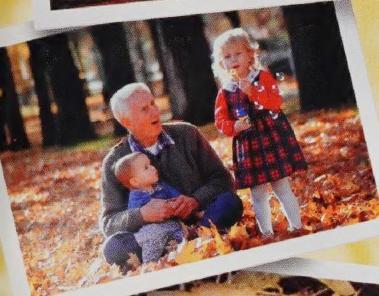
Think you know everything about Ontario, eh? You'll have to prove it 105

Cover photo: Lake Rosseau

Photo page 3 – Masterfile, Malton, Rommel

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AUGUST

- AUG 15** Wildflower Farm 3rd Annual Sunflower Celebration
AUG 19 Kleinburg Buskerfest
AUG 20-22 Markham Jazz Festival
AUG 27-29 Eaglewood Folk Festival
AUG 28-29 Doors Open Markham

SEPTEMBER

- SEP 6** Unionville Labour Day Celebration
SEP 11 Kettleby Fair
SEP 11 Kleinburg Binder Twine Festival
SEP 12 Markham Olden Days & Antique Cars
SEP 18 Unionville Antique & Heritage Festival
SEP 18 Thornhill Village Festival
SEP 23-25 "Newsies" - Stephen Leacock Theatre
SEP 25-26 Georgina Studio Tour
SEP 30-OCT 3 Markham Fair

OCTOBER

- OCT 2-3** East Gwillimbury Studio Art Tour
OCT 5-26 Georgina Art Gallery, 4th Annual Open Juried Art Show
OCT 9-11 Unionville Oktoberfest
OCT 9-11 Vaughan Fall Colour Festival
OCT 9-11 Woodbridge 157th Fall Fair
OCT 16-17 Richmond Hill Studio Tour & Art Sale
OCT 23 Kleinburg Pumpkin Fest

NOVEMBER

- NOV 6** Sharon Country Craft Show

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your Ontario

'Your Ontario' is a showcase of the unique, extraordinary and spectacular moments experienced by readers like yourself on their travels. If you'd like to share your favourite Ontario Moment, send it to us and we may just include it in our next edition.

Send a picture to help tell the story and we may include that too.

Here are some questions to ponder while writing your epic experience: what did you discover in Ontario? Was it everything you imagined and more? How did you feel? Was travelling half the fun? Did the wildlife give you goosebumps?

Or perhaps you would just like to comment on our new magazine. Send us your thoughts today.

Mail: Ontario Tourism Marketing Partnership Corporation

Attention: *inOntario* editor

10th Floor, Hearst Block, 900 Bay St., Toronto, ON M7A 2E1

Fax us: (416) 314-7563 E-mail us: editor@ontariotravel.net

Note: Please include name, address and phone number in your submission. Please send all e-mailed photo attachments in JPG format. Sorry, photos cannot be returned. Thank you in advance for your story and we hope to share your Ontario Moments with our *inOntario* readers soon.

A night to remember

My most-cherished Ontario moment came just last autumn when my husband, kids and I left our Toronto home to re-discover my childhood stomping grounds in Killarney Provincial Park.

But I forgot that getting two 'cool' teenagers to tag along with their parents for a weekend was a difficult task. They weren't happy.

We were perhaps only a half-hour or so from Killarney Mountain Lodge, when my husband suddenly slammed on the brakes and pulled to the side of the road. All he said was 'Look up.' I'm not exactly sure how

the rest of us missed it, but encompassing the entire sky before us shone the brilliant Northern Lights.

I remember seeing the lights as a child, but now seeing them with new 'adult' eyes, I was completely captivated by this awesome sight.

And oddly enough, just as we were leaving, I noticed my kids had smiles on their faces. They never smile on family outings. I held back a tear.

To make a long moment short, we continued on to the lodge, unpacked and had the best sleep ever. Our weekend of towering pines, hiking historic trails, paddling topaz

water and sharing family time was a fine trip indeed.

My family had the time of their lives. And I did too.

— *inOntario* reader

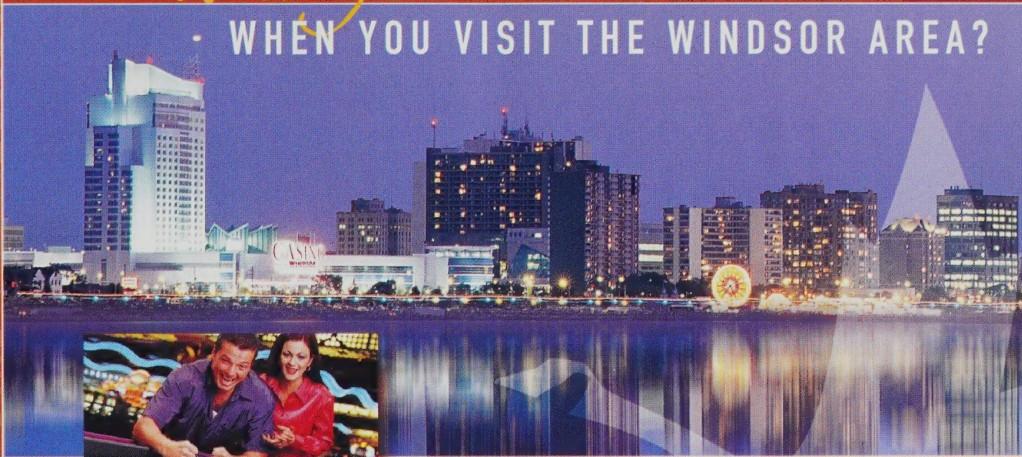


WHAT WILL YOU DO...

• WHEN YOU VISIT THE WINDSOR AREA?

CALENDAR
WINNERS
PEDAL
DINE

CHALLENGE
EXPLORER
DISCOVER



WHERE TO START?

It's good to start with a plan...

Should you visit for the festivals and events, or the nightlife? Our area hosts some great happenings. You won't want to miss the spectacular raptor migrations. And, for two days, September 25 and 26, 2004, step inside over 40 heritage and architecturally significant buildings during the *free* Doors Open Amherstburg/Windsor event. For around-the-clock excitement, visit Casino Windsor where slots and table games await you 24-7. Be sure to catch one of their fabulous revue shows in the Showtime lounge.

How about our food and drink? Fall brings the bounty of the harvest. From our agriculturally diverse region comes an amazing array of foodstuffs that local restaurants turn into glorious creations. Catch the excitement of the harvest at our seven local wineries. These award-winning attractions all offer tours and samples. How many bottles can you carry home?

For FREE travel information visit:
www.visitwindsor.com
or call 1-866-270-7111

Are you a history buff? Our area has played a pivotal role in the history of Canada including the War of 1812 and the saga of the Underground Railroad. Discover fascinating details of both in the town of Amherstburg, along with fine boutiques, classic gardens and more great food!

Want to make a splash? Fall weather is wonderful in our area and there's no better way to enjoy it than on the water! Travel by ferry to Pelee Island, Canada's most southerly inhabited point, or spend the day trying to catch the big one on board one of our many fishing charters. Or why not sit back, relax and take a leisurely Detroit River cruise aboard Pride of Windsor Cruises?

So with all these options, what'll you do? Start by calling the Convention & Visitors Bureau toll free at 1-866-270-7111. We can offer assistance in planning your action packed getaway!



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Tourism/Economic
Development Department

Toll Free: 1-800-413-9993
Web site: www.amherstburg.ca
E-mail: tourism-eccde@amherstburg.ca
Visitor Centre: (519) 736-8320 (Apr.-Nov.)
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Department: (519) 736-3589 (year round)



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Oakville is a beautiful, waterfront getaway destination. It offers an amazing variety of golf courses, shopping, renowned restaurants, entertainment, fascinating attractions and trails. Oakville is conveniently located and easily accessible to neighbouring Toronto and the Niagara Region. Come and enjoy one of our Experience Packages to whet your travel appetite!

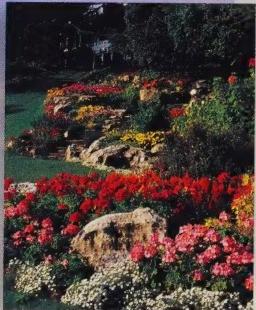
Experience 3 Great Getaways in Oakville

#1 GARDENS BY THE LAKE

A gardener's delight! The Oakville tour includes a heritage home tour at Erchless, Oakville Museum on the lakefront, a unique "art audio" tour at Gairloch Gardens, and garden accessory shopping. Enjoy dinner and an overnight stay with breakfast in Oakville. Continue your getaway with a tour on Day 2 to the Royal Botanical Gardens, the Crawford Lake's Moccasin walk and the heritage species garden. This package includes accommodation and breakfast, admission to attractions, \$20 restaurant coupon and a gift with purchase at participating stores.

Package cost per person, based on double occupancy and availability

\$112 per person	Holiday Inn Oakville-Centre	Reservations: 905 842-5000
\$92 per person	Country Inn	Reservations: 905 829-8020



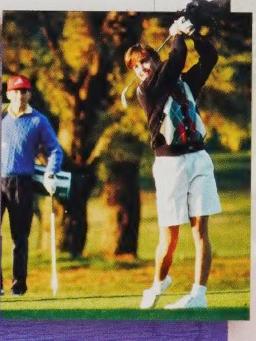
#2 GIRLFRIENDS, GOLF, GLAMOUR AND GAB

Getaway to Oakville! Be pampered with a \$35 voucher for the Rosewater Spa. Enjoy a complimentary cocktail or signature dessert with a meal purchase at participating restaurants. Relax overnight and enjoy breakfast in a downtown Oakville B&B or contemporary hotel. Start Day 2 with a visit to the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame and Museum, enjoy lunch at the spectacular Glen Abbey Golf Club, and limber up with instruction and driving range practice at the ClubLink Golf Academy. Finish off a perfect afternoon with a light snack and 9 holes of golf.

Package cost per person, based on double occupancy and availability

\$330 per person	Bed & Breakfast	Reservations: 905 849-9729
\$352 per person	Country Inn	Reservations: 905 829-8020

Summer and Fall. Not available August 31-September 14



#3 BRONTE CRUISE, VIEWS & OUTDOOR THEATRE

Bronte Harbour in Oakville is a heavenly summer destination. Take in a boat cruise on Lake Ontario, choose a dinner venue from a selection of wonderful participating restaurants using your \$20 dinner coupon. Experience the unique outdoor theatre play - Shakespeare's Comedy of Errors in July, and Salt-Water Moon in August. Stay overnight and enjoy a scrumptious breakfast at the Holiday Inn Select. Take your time Day 2 exploring and browsing in the unique boutiques and shops of Bronte Village. Take advantage of a free gift with a purchase at participating stores.

Package cost per person, based on double occupancy and availability

\$145 per person	Holiday Inn Select	Reservations: 1 800 880-3188
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July 13-August 6, and August 10-August 28.



Indulge in a little
Oakville

For more information about your Great Getaway Experience
Visit www.oakvilletourism.ca or call 1-877-OAKVILLE



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spend time with your FAMILY, Close your

EYES, and take the...

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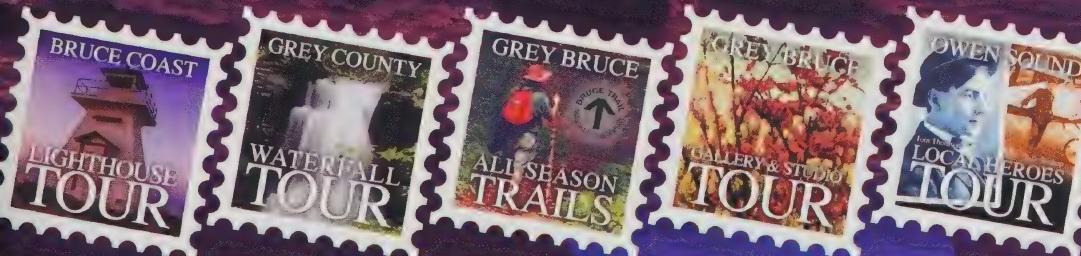
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or visit www.explorethebruce.com or www.visitgrey.ca



Grey & Bruce Country

TAKE THE GREY BRUCE TRAVEL CHALLENGE



fall

A large, illuminated sign spelling "fall" in a park at night. The letters are bright yellow and stand out against the dark background of autumn foliage. The sign is mounted on a metal pole and is surrounded by fallen leaves on the ground. In the foreground, a person's silhouette is visible walking away from the camera, their path illuminated by a warm glow.



Killarney Provincial Park



Muskoka



Pinery Provincial Park

Draped in brilliant hues and gorgeous landscapes, Ontario is a paradise everyone can enjoy. Every autumn, maple trees transform into a vibrant mosaic of persimmon orange, rich amber, deep burgundy and bright red. Admire the view aboard a train and watch the colours pass you by or enjoy the sights on a romantic fall colours tour.

fall colours for Ontario

Perfect evenings are spent sitting on a lakeside dock and letting the waves serenade you to sleep. Experience more in Ontario, a place where every sunset is a work of art, every piece of nature is a national treasure and every visit is memorable.

Colours to fall for

See autumn's vivid colours at their best. From mid-September to the end of October, biweekly fall colour progression reports are posted for most regions in Ontario. Plan your romantic getaway or fall colour tour now.

- Hike from lodge to lodge on a natural history tour of the Bruce Coast and experience Ontario's wilderness without compromising comfort
- Romance ripens at harvest festivals and fall fairs throughout the province. Sample fresh apple pie, pick up a keepsake and enjoy the midway with your family
- Brilliant autumn colours lure you to Algonquin Provincial Park. Hikers and canoeists can catch maples at their crimson fiercest, usually the last week of September
- Pinery Provincial Park, home to one of North America's largest remaining oak savannahs, hosts a self-guided foliage tour during the Fall Colour Weekend, October 16 and 17

Please call 1-800-ONTARIO or log on to www.ontariotravel.net for Ontario's fall colour reports to ensure a colourful fall getaway (reports go online starting in October).

here and now

Photo courtesy of Savor Ontario.

Serving up Ontario

Millcroft Inn

There's always something new and unique to discover in this great province, and we will let you know where you can find the best of the best. Whether it is a restaurant, an interactive museum, a family attraction or a romantic getaway, rely on *inOntario* magazine so you don't miss a thing.



CULTURE'S BREWING



I journeyed back to a time when 19th century architecture ruled the skies, and roads were cobblestoned. It is the Historic Distillery District, an ancient whiskey distillery in Old Town Toronto.

The pleasant aroma of baked food seemed to permeate my soul, tempting my senses to taste a slice. I bought the whole loaf. The songs of live bands resonated off the massive red-clay-brick buildings and flirted with my eardrums from every direction. I loved this place immediately.

Couples strolled by endlessly, falling in love with the Distillery

with each new step taken and corner turned. I explored the ultra-cool Sandra Ainsley Gallery, being extremely careful to not knock over any of these brilliant pieces.

The Artscape Studios was my next stop, a kind of 'meet and greet'



Sandra Ainsley Gallery

between artists and the public. Then I rested my weary body with fine malt at the Mill Street Brewery. What an experience!

You have to come sample the culture and history brewing here. I go just for the 'people watching' but there's always something new to do.

– Darren Hakker

Call (416) 364-1177 or log on to www.thedistillerydistrict.com for maps and a complete list of events and boutiques and galleries awaiting you in 19th century Toronto. Find out more things to see in Old Town Toronto by visiting www.oldtoronto.ca

here and now



a museum full of FUN

What do you get when you cross a gallery, a science lab and a playground? The new Waterloo Regional Children's Museum, of course. Here, kids explore their creative side in weird, wild and fun-filled ways. And they may even learn a thing or two. 'Edutainment' runs rampant at the museum. Kids can understand how they get all their energy in the Energy Playground, learn the 'tools' of life at Mechanical City and 'wet' their appetite in The Water Garden. It sure beats sitting in front of a television all day.

Kids at heart can relive their childhood with a stroll through the antique and contemporary childhood treasures exhibit beginning September 25.

'Edutainment' runs rampant

It's now possible to show your kids the wonders of tomorrow using the technology of today. Get all the information on the new Waterloo Regional Children's Museum by visiting www.wrcm.ca or by calling (519) 749-9387 for this, the latest and one of the greatest museums for families in Ontario.

Photo courtesy of Waterloo Regional Children's Museum.



Fall COLOURS

This fall, explore 100 acres of stunning woodland that surrounds the McMichael art gallery and showcases the season's magnificent colours! www.mcmichael.com

Tom Thomson (1877-1917). *Autumn Landscape*. Oil on canvas. 21 x 32 in. Gift of Mrs. H.P. de Peyster. McMichael Canadian Art Collection.

McMichael
10365 Islington Ave, Kleinburg 905 893.1121

retail therapy



Is this you? You never know what to buy your children and you give toasters as birthday presents. If it is, then it's time to add colour and creativity to your life! Look no further than a gallery or museum right here in Ontario.

No, we're not saying you have to spend your life savings on a Rembrandt. But gallery and museum gift shops have creative solutions for a concerned decorator or gift-giver. Not only do these extraordinary shopping boutiques have current and well-known exhibition souvenirs, they also have fail-safe gift-giving solutions that are always 'in'. How about giving your friends a Claude Monet print instead of the 3D

pumpkin poster you had in mind? Why not pick up the latest reproduced sculpture for that hard-to-buy-for person? Just don't forget one for yourself.

When in Ottawa, make a stop at the National Gallery of Canada's gift shop and pick up more than just prints and repro-

ductions. This place has it all. Everything from the latest art books to intricately-designed china, to your favourite jewellery. Visit www.national.gallery.ca for a sampling of their creative selection, call 1-800-319-2787, or personally visit the shop. Just don't forget to check out the original works of art at the gallery.

Toronto's Art Gallery of Ontario's shopping boutique is the Garden of Eden for creative shop-a-holics. The latest designer prints, napkins, chairs and more. Deciding what to buy here is always difficult and leaving is just as hard. Visit www.ago.net or call (416) 979-6610.

So, if you're looking for new and creative ways to brighten your home or terrific gift-giving solutions, come visit a gallery or museum and become the 'smart', 'creative' and 'hip' one in the family.



Waterloo Bridge: the sun in a fog,
Claude Monet

Solar-powered dragonflies

• Children and adults alike love the Canada Science and Technology Museum. They've got the quirkiest and coolest gifts

Photo courtesy of Canada Science and Technology Museum.



you can imagine. Can you picture an old-fashioned root beer kit? How about solar-powered dragonflies? Or perhaps a 'build your own steam locomotive' kit? They've got it all. Visit them in Ottawa or purchase online at www.scientech.technomuses.ca, [(613) 991-3044].

• With rich colours, hundreds of textures



Photo courtesy of Textile Museum of Canada.

and countless applications, the Textile Museum of Canada's shop is a quaint

place to find everything from accent pillows to paper items, designed by over 50 Canadian artists. Tempt yourself at www.textilemuseum.ca, [(416) 599-5321] then pick up a gift or two at their store in Toronto.

here and now

CATCH SOME



Phoebe Sutherland, owner of the Sweetgrass Aboriginal Bistro, adjusts a dreamcatcher, one of many artefacts at the Ottawa restaurant.

If you're looking for something a little different for lunch or dinner, try Ottawa's new Sweetgrass Aboriginal Bistro. Ontario's first fine dining restaurant to serve exclusively Aboriginal cuisine, the Sweetgrass beautifully weaves in First Nations culture to add to the experience. You'll get a taste of Ontario through the talent of local Aboriginal chefs in a comfortable setting featuring handcrafted artefacts.

NATIVE CULTURE

Friendly Aboriginal staff present some of the most scrumptious dishes in Ottawa, smoked Atlantic seafood cakes, rich peppered buffalo steak, roasted partridge and slow roasted leg of Canada Goose. Don't be afraid to try Navajo fry bread or the traditional bannock. The aroma alone gets your mouth watering.

Head to the Sweetgrass Aboriginal Bistro, in the ByWard Market area, for fine dining with a difference. For reservations call (613) 562-3683 or for more information visit their website at www.sweetgrassbistro.ca

Indian buudin recipe

One of the favourite desserts at the Sweetgrass is Indian Buudin. The recipe is from the owner's mother.



Ingredients

8 cups of flour
8 teaspoons of baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
4 cups of white sugar
1 cup of dried cranberries
1 cup of yellow or brown raisins
2 cups of water, enough to cover fruit
1 can of pumpkin pie filling
1 teaspoon of vanilla
1 teaspoon of cinnamon
2 cups of vegetable oil, any kind, except olive oil

- Cover cranberries and raisins with warm water and add the baking soda. Soak for about half-an-hour.
- Create a burnt sugar and water mixture by melting two cups of sugar in a saucepan or frying pan with just enough water to prevent the sugar from sticking to the pan.
- Bring to a boil and wait until bubbles cover the surface and the sugar turns dark. Remove from stove and let cool for about 10 minutes.
- Add two cups of warm water to the mixture and stir.

Reheat the mixture until all the sugar is dissolved in the water and then remove from the stove and let it cool until luke warm. Then mix in pumpkin and vanilla.

- Mix flour, baking powder and two cups of sugar and cinnamon in a large bowl.
 - Make a hole in the middle of the dry ingredients and pour in the fruit with water. Mix with your hands, starting at the centre and progressively add the liquid mix.
 - Once all the ingredients are blended you should have a non-sticky, heavy dough batter, halfway between a cake batter and bannock.
 - Grease two pans with lids then pour in the batter.
 - Use a large pot for steaming. You may need to put each pan in a separate pot.
 - It is important that the pans do not touch the bottom of the pot. Use a pie rack to put at the bottom of the pot. You can use flat rocks, as we do at times.
 - Pour water in the pot so it is about one-quarter-full.
 - Now place the pans in the pot.
 - Bring the water to a boil. Lower the heat to medium and cover. Cook for two hours.
 - Once cooked, remove from the steaming pot and let the Buudin cool off for about one hour.
 - Cut only when completely cooled.
 - Serve with a custard sauce or a light caramel sauce.
- Enjoy!

here and now

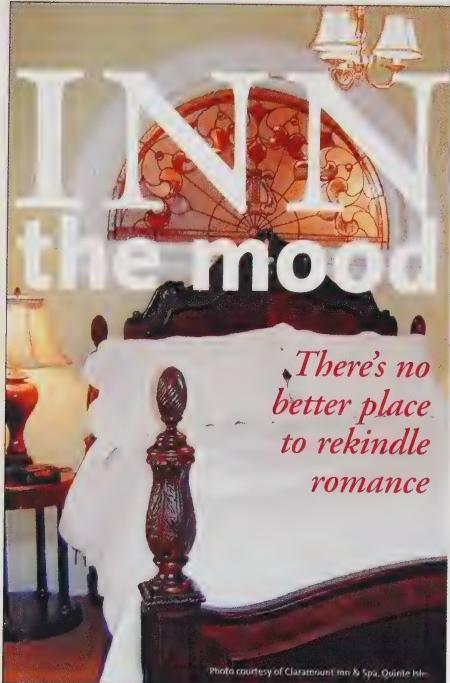


Photo courtesy of Claramount Inn & Spa, Quinte Isle.

In the mood for body and soul rejuvenation? Ontario's the perfect backdrop for you and your partner to head to an inn, unwind and experience the simpler things in life.

Recently opened, the Claramount Inn & Spa and the Inn on the Harbour let you enjoy life's sensual moments: breakfasts in bed, mid-afternoon bubble baths and quiet fireside dinners, to name just a few. There's no better place to rekindle romance than in the fairy tale setting of these inns, and if you have kids, consider a romantic getaway...quiet moments like these don't come about every day.

At long last, an opportunity to use your sweet, subtle persuasion to suggest a romantic stroll at sunset or share a massage with your partner.

Find quiet moments together at the new Claramount Inn & Spa on Quinte Isle (www.claramountinn.com, 1-800-679-7756). Or marvel at the heavenly backdrops of fireplaces and harbour views at the new Inn on the Harbour in Port Stanley (www.innontheharbour.ca, (519) 782-7623).

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Amedeo Modigliani (Italian, 1884–1920) *Portrait of Mrs. Hossing*, 1915, oil on cardboard. Gift of Sam and Ayala Zacks, 1970. © 2004 Art Gallery of Ontario.

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here and now

The wind beneath your feet

Scenic Caves Suspension Bridge, Collingwood

When you're ready to set foot on the enormous Scenic Caves Suspension Bridge, a new attraction in the Town of The Blue Mountains, near Collingwood, there will be at least two things on your mind: the length of the bridge and the distance to the valley below.

You may just want to bring someone with you to calm your fear of heights, because this bridge isn't like any other. It's the longest suspension footbridge in Ontario at 126 m

(410 ft.) and higher than most visitors imagine at 300 m (984 ft.) above Georgian Bay. But even with its monstrous dimensions, there's

nothing to be afraid of. The anchors are set in 40-cubic metres (52 cubic yards) of concrete and the cables are designed to hold hundreds – even thousands – of people at a time.

Some come simply for the bridge, but the real attraction is the view. On a clear day, you can see 10,000

square kilometres (3,860 square miles) of rolling hills and clear blue water. A colourful mosaic of autumn's glory stretching in every direction.

While you're here, be sure to explore the Scenic Caves themselves. At one time protecting local natives from their enemies, this awe-inspiring underground adventure is now a highlight to any getaway in the Town of The Blue Mountains.

Experience Ontario with a renewed sense of fall splendour in your heart. Visit www.sceniccaves.com or call (705) 446-0256 for everything you need, except someone to hold your hand.



Photo courtesy of Scenic Caves, Collingwood

here and now

PEARLS OF WISDOM

There are few things in the world more beautiful than a pearl, except perhaps half a million of them. And that's exactly what you'll find at the Royal Ontario Museum's incredible new exhibition entitled Pearls: A Natural History.

This is possibly the most extensive and valuable collection of pearls ever assembled in one place. This specific collection has quite a fascinating history behind it, too. Get a glimpse of the famous pearl necklace Joe DiMaggio gave Marilyn Monroe and feast your eyes on



Photo by: Denis Finnin.
© American Museum of Natural History.



*Chrysanthemum brooch
Design by Paulding Farnham
for Tiffany & Co. (1904).
On loan from the collection
of R. Weatherly © Wartski,
London.*



*Marilyn Monroe Necklace
Photo by: Denis Finnin. On loan
from Mikimoto (America) Co.
Ltd. © American Museum of
Natural History.*



*Audrey Hepburn Necklace
Photo by: Denis Finnin.
© American Museum of
Natural History.*

the gorgeous necklace that graced Marie Antoinette until her neck could bear it no longer.

Stand inches away from extremely rare varieties: natural blue mussel pearl, large white and gold South Sea cultured pearls, a black Tahitian cultured pearl and a natural pink conch pearl.

Pearls: A Natural History is on from September 18, 2004 to January 9, 2005. Visit www.rom.on.ca or call (416) 586-8000 and plan your trip today.

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Last view of Dundas Street facade © Gehry International Architects Inc.

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Celebrate the fall season by trying something wonderful. You won't be disappointed.



A BOUNTIFUL CROP OF FESTIVALS

Toronto Film Festival, September 9–18



The stars are coming to light up Toronto during one of the world's largest film festivals. See celebrities up close, get an autograph or two, then enjoy some of the best films the movie industry has to offer on the big screen.

Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest, October 8–16

The largest Bavarian festival in North America entertains with dancing, musical performances and live acts. Savour malt beer and delicious food, then admire creativity on display at the Quilt Gallery in nearby St. Jacobs.

Bala Cranberry Festival, October 15–17

Cranberries never tasted yummier than in Bala! Take a pretty fall tour by helicopter or car, then learn the art of cranberry production at Bala's two cranberry bogs. Whatever you do, don't forget to take home a jar or two of cranberry jam to liven up your breakfast toast with warm memories of your visit to Bala.

This fall the calendar is full

september

Nipigon Fall Fishing Festival

Nipigon, September 2–6

Rotary Ribfest

Burlington, September 3–6

Guelph Jazz Festival

Guelph, September 8–12

Toronto International Film Festival

Toronto, September 9–18

Niagara Wine and Food Classic

Niagara Falls, September 10–12

New Liskeard Fall Fair

New Liskeard, September 16–18

Owen Sound Celtic Festival

Owen Sound, September 17–19

Niagara Grape and Wine Festival

St. Catharines, September 17–26

International Plowing Match and

Rural Expo

Meadford, September 22–26

All Canadian Jazz Festival

Port Hope, September 24–26

Niagara Food Festival

Welland, September 24–26

october

Markham Fair

Markham, September 30–October 3

Port Elgin Pumpkinfest

Port Elgin, October 2–3

Norfolk County Fair and
Horse Show

Simcoe, October 5–11

Ball's Falls Thanksgiving Festival

Jordan, October 8–11



Waterford Pumpkin Festival

Rockton World's Fair

Rockton, October 8–11

Kitchener-Waterloo Oktoberfest

Kitchener, October 8–16

TASTE! A Celebration of
Regional Cuisine

Picton, October 9

Bala Cranberry Festival

Bala, October 15–17

The Toronto Marathon and
Half Marathon

Toronto, October 17

Waterford Pumpkin Festival

Waterford, October 22–24

november

Royal Agricultural Winter Fair

Toronto, November 5–14

Angelfest

Niagara West, November 12–
January 23

Timmins Santa Claus Parade

Timmins, November 13

Festival of Trees

Belleville, November 17–21

Festival of Lights at Cullen Gardens
and Miniature Village

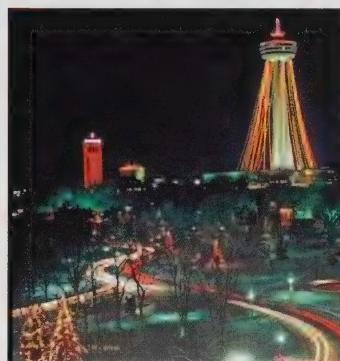
Whitby, November 19–January 2

Festival of Northern Lights

Owen Sound, November 19–
January 16

Winter Festival of Lights

Niagara Falls, November 20–
January 18



Winter Festival of Lights, Niagara Falls

Festival in the Park

Owen Sound, November 27–28

Festival of Trees

Chatham, November 24–27

Simcoe Christmas Panorama

Simcoe, November 27–January 2

To discover our full line-up of events

please visit

www.festivalsandeventsontario.ca or

www.ontariotravel.net

Happy 'eventing'!

A woman with dark hair and a light-colored turtleneck sweater is shown in profile, facing right. She is holding a clear wine glass filled with red wine in her right hand, which is visible on the right side of the frame. The background is a plain, light color.

wine country ‘nose’ how

—Anne Dimon



Niagara Region



Vineland Estates Winery



Pelee Island Winery, Kingsville

Fall is the time of year when Ontario's wine country really sparkles. With vineyards blanketed in the bright colours of autumn, this is the time when visitors are most likely to find the four main wine producing regions – Pelee Island, Lake Erie North Shore, Niagara Peninsula and Prince Edward County – celebrating with a number of harvest events and activities.

"Harvest festivals are very much a part of what makes up this region," says Allen Gelberg, Director of Sales and Marketing, Vintage Inns, Niagara-on-the-Lake. And here in Niagara-on-the-Lake, he says "the whole town tends to get involved."

Niagara Region

One of the Niagara region's main fall events is Taste the Season. This year the wine/food weekends take place November 13/14 and 20/21. The

purchase of a touring passport allows the holder to sample foods and wines at 16 of the region's wineries. Better take a designated driver along for the ride. Sherry Lockwood of Peller Estates Winery says "the passport is valid for two days and we encourage visitors to stay in town overnight to fully enjoy the end of the harvest season, and do some early holiday shopping." She says you can pick up gifts, tips on entertaining and, from participating chefs, seasonal recipes.

Prince Edward County

In Prince Edward County, one of the prime fall draws is TASTE!, an annual celebration that Dan Taylor, the county's economic development officer calls, "a one-day food orgy." Dan says the agricultural area offers fabulous food products, wineries and top chefs including Jamie Kennedy.

"You just buy a ticket for \$12.50," Dan says, "and sample away." TASTE! takes place the Saturday of the Canadian Thanksgiving long weekend (October 9) under umbrellas of classic fall colours. The county also has the newly-launched Taste Trail, a self-guided culinary driving route that winds past wineries, restaurants, full-service roadside stands, a chocolaterie and at least one cheese factory.

Other activities in the various wine regions include concert performances, an outdoor art market of one-of-a-kind wares by Canadian artisans, bicycle routes, winemakers dinners, wine tastings, theatre packages and autumn-themed cooking classes. For fast facts on Ontario's wine regions see page 28.



Inniskillin Wines

Ontario • 27

fast facts on ontario wine regions

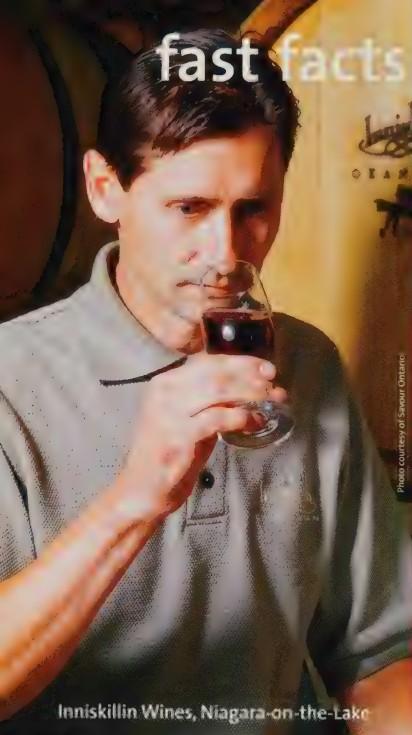


Photo courtesy of Savour Ontario

Inniskillin Wines, Niagara-on-the-Lake

- In Ontario's four wine-growing regions there are 6,100 hectares (15,000 acres) of grape vines
- There are over 50 wineries

- An estimated one million people a year visit the wine regions
- There are over a dozen winery restaurants

Wines of Ontario offers downloadable guides and tour maps for local wine regions at www.winesofontario.org, or call (905) 684-8070 ext. 10 for more information.

Search a smorgasbord of food and wine packages at www.savourontario.ca

Taste the Season passports and accommodations are available at www.niagaraonthelake.com, (905) 468-1950.

For stay-over accommodations check out the Vintage Inns collection at www.vintageinns.com or call 1-888-669-5566.

Visit www.ontariotravel.net for accommodations, activities, events, dining and wine region information.

—Anne Dimon is an award-winning travel writer and regular contributor to a number of publications including the Toronto Star.

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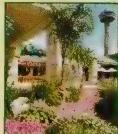
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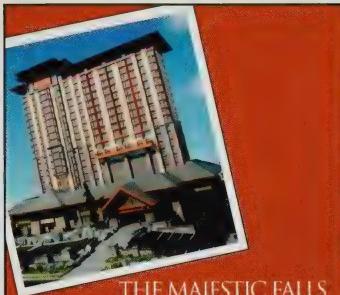
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650 places to get
'teed off'

John Farnham

Photo courtesy of Glen Abbey, Oakville



It's been 100 years since the top six finishers at the first Canadian Open golf championship shared \$170 in prize money. This year, at the centenary tournament at Oakville Glen Abbey golf course, the purse will be more than \$6 million.

Back in 1904 only 17 golfers, 10 pros and seven amateurs teed up for 36 holes in a one-day tournament. This year 156 golfers will be in the field for the tournament that lasts four days and covers 72 holes.

So much has changed in the sport over the years. It has gone from a game where few played, to a sport for the masses. Today, it can cost as much to play one round of golf on some of Ontario's public courses as it did to cover the entire prize money of that first Canadian Open. The growth has been gradual, particularly over the past half-century, helped by the emergence of household names in golf, who have won the Canadian Open.

Sam Snead was the champion in 1941, Byron Nelson 1942, Arnold Palmer 1955, Lee Trevino 1971, Greg Norman 1992, and, the greatest of them all, Tiger Woods, in 2000.

When Tiger won in 2000, he did it in remarkable style, with undisputedly the best golf shot ever hit in Canada – a six iron out of a bunker and over the lake that protects Glen Abbey's 18th green. If they ever start placing markers on golf courses to show where great moments in the sport occurred,

Tiger's blast from the sand would be among the first.

Jack Nicklaus, known as the 'Golden Bear' and the man who designed Glen Abbey, has never won the Canadian Open, but he was runner-up a record seven times. Jack still plays as a guest on the PGA tour, and has flashes of brilliance as he did on one of his final holes in this year's Masters. He won't ever win the Canadian Open, but he will have a lot to do with who wins at Glen Abbey.

The 'Golden Bear' will be testing the Tiger, and other PGA stars, with changes on 15 of the 18 holes this year. Glen Abbey's superintendent, Peter Kinch, has made the changes, following closely suggestions from Jack Nicklaus. Two of the major new challenges are bunkers on the 16th

and 18th holes. On the 16th the bunker is placed right in front of the elevated green, and on the 18th it has been placed "beyond the previous furthest bunker to prevent the pros from flying all the left fairway bunkers," says Peter.

Canada's own Mike Weir, who always has a big gallery at the Bell Canadian Open, had a park named after him this spring in his home town of Bright's Grove, just a few hundred yards away

from Huron Oaks where, as a teenager, he honed his skills.

Mike's 'home' course today is Taboo, in the heart of Muskoka, where several courses have been carved out of the bush in the past few years.

Today there are more than 650 golf courses in Ontario. The latest, The Rock, on Muskoka's Lake



Photo courtesy of Royal Canadian Golf Association

Golfing legend Arnold Palmer had just turned pro when he won the Canadian Open in 1955 at Toronto's Weston Golf and Country Club. It was Arnie's first of 61 wins on the PGA tour.

Rosseau, was created by Britain's Nick Faldo, well known for his shot-making skills. Naturally, he's built a course that suits his game, although for those whose shots are not always straight down the middle, brush has been cleared for 30 yards on either side and covered with red bark mulch.



Photo courtesy of Royal Canadian Golf Association

Muskoka golf courses were not always well-groomed and pristine. This early postcard shows a course with plenty of rough, a more golf links look.

The Rock, aptly named because rocks come in to play on 13 of the 18 holes, is too new to have a signature hole. Kevin O'Donnell, the director of golf, says there are five possibilities for the signature hole on the high-end, daily fee course, but initial comments from those who have played the course, which opened this spring, are "it has a Pinehurst, Augusta feel to it, and they like the European-style bunkers with edges that are not manicured." Who needs a signature hole with comments like that? For more information on golf, see page 36..



Photo courtesy of Royal Canadian Golf Association.

A postcard decked in fall colours is a memento of Niagara-on-the-Lake Golf Club, one of the oldest golf courses in North America.



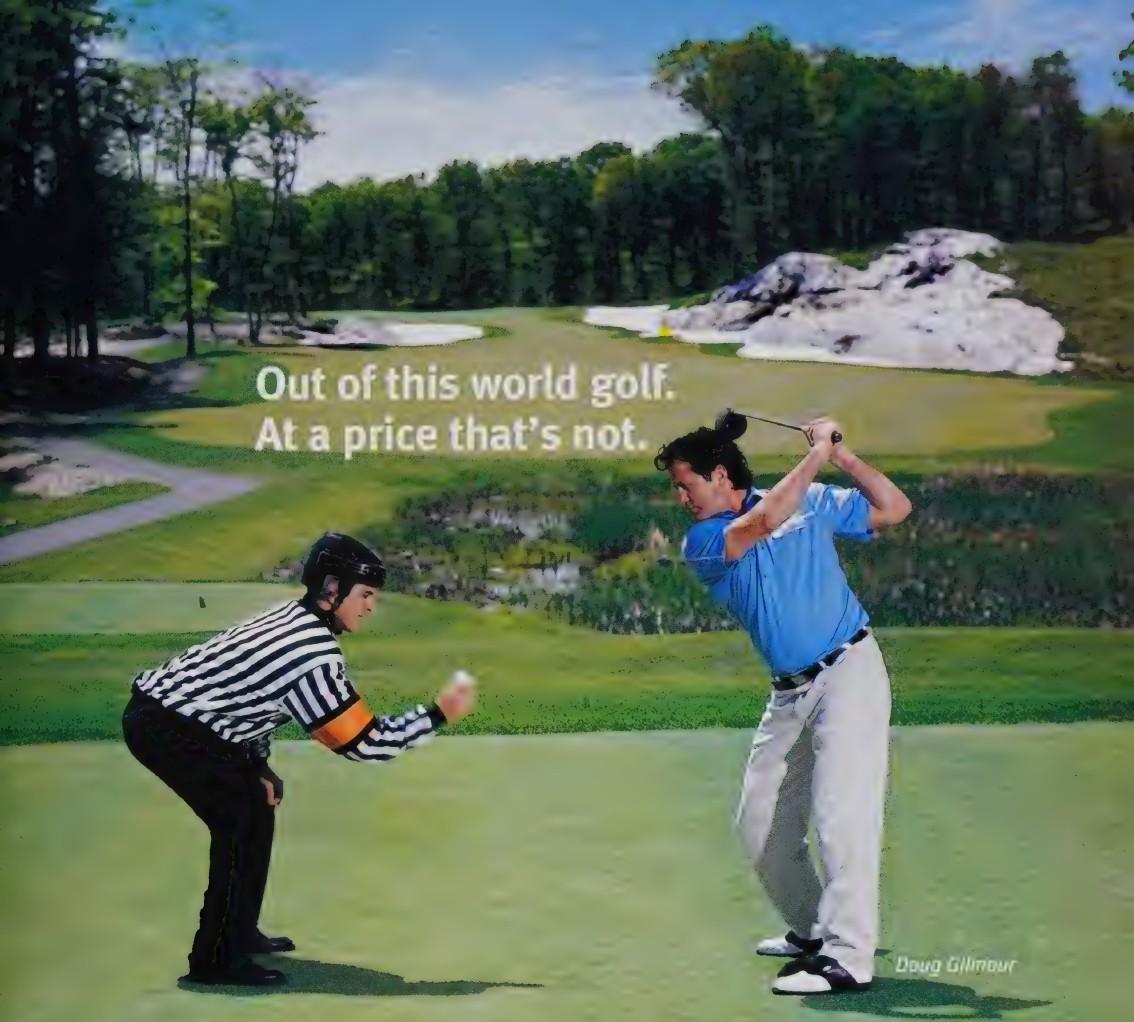
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- For more information about the Canadian Open visit www.e.bell.ca/cdnopen/ or call 1-800-571-OPEN.
- For tee times so you can go and marvel for yourself what Tiger did at Glen Abbey visit www.clublink.ca or call 1-800-276-9542.
- Play Huron Oaks, the course where Mike Weir worked as a youngster. The course was saved from receivership in November 2003 by Jay Peters, who took some of his \$10 million Lotto 6/49 winnings to buy the course. Visit www.huronoaks.com
- Royal Canadian Golf Association, on the grounds of Glen Abbey, www.rcga.org. Also at Glen Abbey, visit the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame. For information call (905) 849-9700, extension 213.
- The Rock and Taboo are part of the Muskoka Golf Trail, six courses that offer tremendous packages to play and stay in the Muskoka area. Other courses are Deerhurst Highlands, The Mark O'Meara Course at Grandview, The Lake Joseph Club and Rocky Crest Golf Club. Four of the courses have first-class resorts – Taboo, Deerhurst and Delta has the Grandview and Rocky Crest properties. Create your own package – play at any course and stay at any resort – by calling (905) 755-0999, 1-800-465-3034 or 1-888-840-4057. More details at www.muskokagolftrail.ca and www.golfinmuskoka.com
- Follow Mike Weir around at www.mikeweir.com
- If you are at Glen Abbey for the 2004 Open or to play the course, take in the Golf Art Show at Oakville Town Hall from August 27 to September 15 and Legends of Modern Golf, an exhibition of photography, from September 15 to December 31. For more information go to www.oakvilletourism.ca or call 1-877-OAKVILLE.

For more information for golfers www.golfontariostyle.com is designed to help with your next golfing trip. You can also order your free *Golf Ontario Style* magazine by calling 1-800-ONTARIO.

And for more travel and accommodation information visit www.ontariotravel.net

John Farrington has been the editor and publisher of a number of daily newspapers throughout Ontario.



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the Fall



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ouples with adventurous palates looking for romantic fall getaways, might be surprised and delighted to discover the culinary gems that await those who venture forth to sample the fruits of the harvest.

Escorted by the tapestry of brilliant colour that wraps around Muskoka each autumn, my husband and I arrived at Taboo Resort, Golf and Conference Centre late afternoon on a glorious Indian Summer day. We'd heard raves about Chef Michael Pataran's nightly tasting menu and we wanted our own gastronomic adventure.

With its rich, dark woods and subtle, Asian-influenced décor, Wildfire, Taboo's signature restaurant is sophisticated and romantic, and its western exposure places patrons front row centre for a show of resplendent fall colours backlit by the setting sun. Depending on the night, Chef Pataran's tasting menu – you never know what you're going to get – offers five, seven or 11 courses and are priced accordingly from \$80 per person.

Tonight's tasting begins with a lobster, crab and blue potato ravioli. A veteran of fine dining establishments, Australian-trained Pataran says, "blue and purple food is really rare and people think it's dyed or artificial, but it's a natural pigmentation." Looks exotic, tastes incredible. It's paired with a Savignon Blanc which, we're told, is one of the few wines that goes well with asparagus. The next six courses include things such as scallops baked in apple, seared duck breast and macadamia-encrusted grouper. Meticulously and artfully presented on a canvas of white

*writing classes
and demonstrations.
wine tasting
seminars and
pairing workshops*

china, each course is as much a feast for the eyes as it is for the taste buds. A delectable selection of mini desserts tops this glorious foray into serendipitous and sinfully delicious fine dining.

Accommodations at Taboo are equally sinful. Frette linens and goose down duvets on queen or king-size Taboo Cloud Beds, and whirlpool tubs and gas fireplaces in the majority of the rooms, make guestrooms so cosy and comfy you're happy to linger. In between dining and catching up on together time, Taboo has an indoor pool, 486 hectares (1,200 acres) of private park land with

hiking trails, mountain biking options and, of course, Mike Weir's prized Taboo Golf Course. Don't you just hate those glorious fall weekends that wrap-up far too quickly?

Of course, Taboo is not the only Ontario resort where you can indulge in fine cuisine. In fact, there are about a

dozen or so inns, cooking schools and wineries that now give visitors a real hands-on interaction with the food, local produce and wines in the company of top chefs, winemakers and sommeliers. A new program called Savour Ontario offers anyone interested in culinary pursuits an opportunity to spend a little quality 'thyme' in professional kitchens, plus opens doors for them to find out more about local produce – organic lettuce, heirloom tomatoes, locally-made chocolates, cheese and award-winning wines. Participants offer cooking classes and demonstrations, wine tasting seminars and pairing workshops that help you choose the perfect wine to go with that delectable dish you just whipped up.



Photo courtesy of Anne Dionne.



Parsons and John Sutherland of Deerfield Farms

Work in the kitchen

One of the Savour Ontario participants is the Millcroft Inn and Spa. So, another weekend we head out and allow ourselves to be embraced in the vivid tapestry that blankets the Caledon Hills every autumn. At the Millcroft Inn and Spa we booked our favourite table, Number 42, in the intimate, glassed-in pod that juts out over the Credit River's gurgling waters and gives patrons a picture-perfect view of seasonal hues. Service in the dining room here is prompt and impeccable, and food, under the direction of Executive Chef Jason Parsons, is always impressive.

Chef Parsons says since the Savour Ontario program launched, he's seen mostly couples working side-by-side with him in the kitchen. Today, as every day, the chef is taking advantage of the freshest foods of the season. He says "playing around with food in the kitchen accounts for 99 per cent of our dishes and culinary creativity is driven by products available." Today those products are pumpkins, heirloom tomatoes, beet roots and Jerusalem

artichokes. We're cooking up Risotto Covent Garden with goat cheese and confit of tomatoes. Around us the kitchen bustles as that creativity goes into full steam for the preparation of lunch.

Following lunch, guests can enjoy a self-guided tour of the local farms and suppliers: Hosswood Farms Organics,

*creativity goes into
full steam for the
preparation of lunch*

Woolwich Dairy, and Hockley Brewery to name a few. Of course, now that the Millcroft has opened its fabulous new spa, couples just might want to pass on the tour and spend a leisurely afternoon indulging in a little hands-on pampering before retiring to one of the

inn's most romantic Croft guest rooms, complete with fireplace, and hot tubs, some with private patios. And you can wile away the hours walking along wooded trails shaded by gold and russet leaves, browsing antique shops in the town of Alton, warming up on the tennis courts, or arranging for a helicopter ride to get a bird's eye on the random clumps of colour patched together with fields and farms.



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How to pair food and wine

In another area ripe for fall visits, Jane Langdon, owner of the Wine Country Cooking School, and her winemaker husband Joe Will of Strewn Winery in Niagara-on-the-Lake are the embodiment of the perfect pairing of food and wine. "It's harvest time so we've pulled out some traditional recipes and we're going to give them a new twist," says the effervescent Langdon. There are about 12 of us in this Saturday interactive cooking workshop.

She hands out today's menu. Those traditional harvest-time recipes are the standard squash soup, mashed potatoes, brussels sprouts and chicken, but Langdon jazzes them up with things like red pepper puree in the roasted squash soup, roasted garlic in the mashed potatoes, pancetta and fresh walnuts tossed in with the brussels sprouts, and Chardonnay with leeks and wild mushrooms to fancy up the chicken. The grand finale is an apple hazelnut cheesecake with Icewine Jelly.

"We're going to be sampling five wines today," says Will. "They've been chosen to best enhance the flavours of the foods you're going to cook." The husband and wife team go together like – well, like the perfect marriage of food and wine.

The large state-of-the-art kitchen offers four fully-equipped islands each accommodating a group of four. If this is a theatre of cuisine, then Langdon is the consummate director ensuring that each culinary scene is perfectly prepared, timed, staged and presented. All that's left is the enjoyment and the rave reviews. One of the really fantastic things about this cooking class stuff is that you don't have to do dishes!

By late afternoon the entire group is in the dining room enjoying the meal, bantering about food and wine, and savouring the blissful pairing of the two. That evening we take a walk through crackling leaves strewn along

Where to Go

Taboo Resort, Golf and Conference Centre is located on Lake Muskoka, call 1-800-461-0236 or visit www.tabooresort.com

The Millcroft Inn and Spa, in the village of Alton can be reached at 1-800-383-3976 or (519) 941-8111 or visit www.millcroft.com

Wine Country Cooking School is at www.winecountrycooking.com or call (905) 468-8300

Strewn Winery can be found at www.strewnwinery.com or call (905) 468-1229.

Savour Ontario information is available at www.savourontario.ca or call 1-800-ONTARIO.

For other Niagara-on-the-Lake fall events and activities browse the pages of www.niagaraonthelake.com or call (905) 468-1950.

Check availabilities or make reservations at Harbour House Hotel www.harbourhousehotel.ca or call 1-866-277-6677.

You'll find Muskoka tourism information at www.muskokatourism.ca or call 1-800-267-9700.

The Shaw Festivals' calendar of performances is available at www.shawfest.com or call the box office at 1-800-511-SHAW.

Log on to www.ontariosfinestinns.com or call 1-800-340-INNS for accommodations suited for the discerning traveller.

More information can be obtained at www.ontariotownandcountry.ca and www.ontariotravel.net

— Anne Dimon is an award-winning travel writer and regular contributor to a number of publications including the Toronto Star.

Niagara-on-the-Lake's main street for a live performance at the Festival Theatre. Another perfect fall day ends with a glass of Icewine and home-made cookies at the new Harbour House Hotel.

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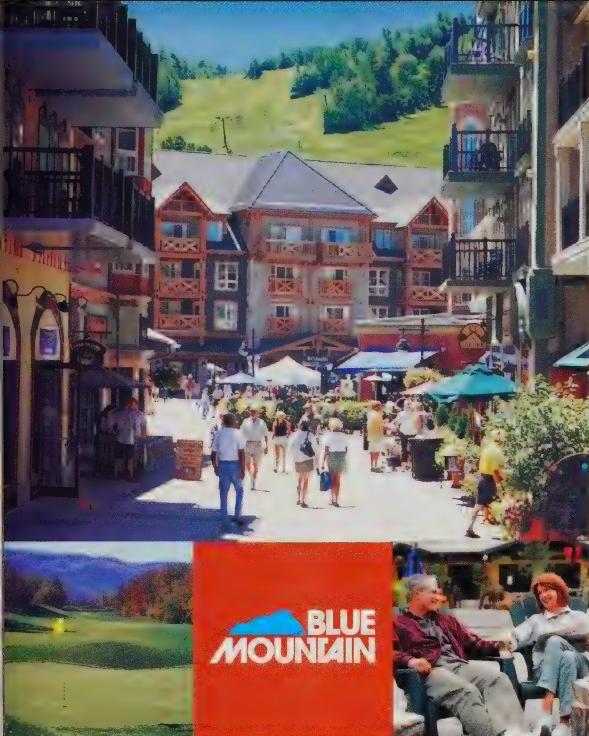
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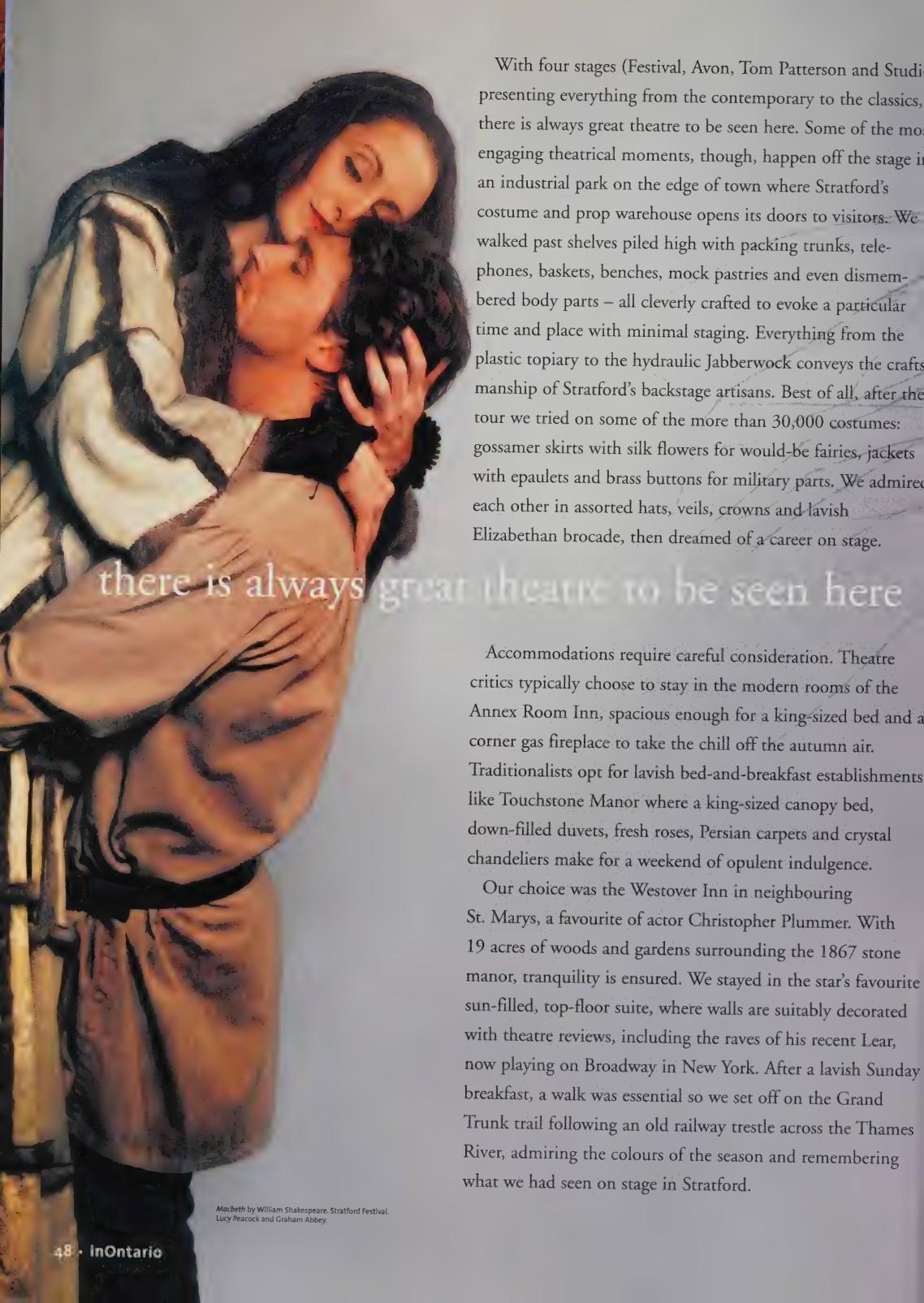
King Henry VIII (Allison Janney) and Queen Anne (Sally Phillips) in William Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. Photo: Graham Armytage and Sophie Metherell

The kids are back at school. The long weekends are over. No more evenings in the backyard lounge chairs, it's time to catch a show, attend an opening, then share coffee and conversation at your favourite bookstore. Autumn's cultural scene is in full swing.

SAVOURING STRATFORD

We arrived early enough to stretch our legs, headed down to the Avon River and kicked up a pile of autumn leaves following the T.J. Dolan Trail through woods and meadows along the lower reaches of the river. On the way back to the theatre my sister and I stopped for tasty take-out sandwiches at a funky little caf  called York Street Kitchen, just steps from the riverbank. Greedy swans came looking for crusts and yellowing willows scattered their leaves into the water.

Stratford seems at its best in the fall, when the Saturday farmers' market is piled high with just-picked pumpkins and fresh vegetables. Home to the renowned Stratford Chef's School, this is a town that knows good food. Excellent eateries abound: the Bijou, Carter's on Downie, the Church, Down the Street, the Old Prune and Rundles number among the top-rated choices all within the town's centre.



there is always great theatre to be seen here

With four stages (Festival, Avon, Tom Patterson and Studio), presenting everything from the contemporary to the classics, there is always great theatre to be seen here. Some of the most engaging theatrical moments, though, happen off the stage in an industrial park on the edge of town where Stratford's costume and prop warehouse opens its doors to visitors. We walked past shelves piled high with packing trunks, telephones, baskets, benches, mock pastries and even dismembered body parts – all cleverly crafted to evoke a particular time and place with minimal staging. Everything from the plastic topiary to the hydraulic Jabberwock conveys the craftsmanship of Stratford's backstage artisans. Best of all, after the tour we tried on some of the more than 30,000 costumes: gossamer skirts with silk flowers for would-be fairies, jackets with epaulets and brass buttons for military parts. We admired each other in assorted hats, veils, crowns and lavish Elizabethan brocade, then dreamed of a career on stage.

Accommodations require careful consideration. Theatre critics typically choose to stay in the modern rooms of the Annex Room Inn, spacious enough for a king-sized bed and a corner gas fireplace to take the chill off the autumn air. Traditionalists opt for lavish bed-and-breakfast establishments like Touchstone Manor where a king-sized canopy bed, down-filled duvets, fresh roses, Persian carpets and crystal chandeliers make for a weekend of opulent indulgence.

Our choice was the Westover Inn in neighbouring St. Marys, a favourite of actor Christopher Plummer. With 19 acres of woods and gardens surrounding the 1867 stone manor, tranquility is ensured. We stayed in the star's favourite sun-filled, top-floor suite, where walls are suitably decorated with theatre reviews, including the raves of his recent Lear, now playing on Broadway in New York. After a lavish Sunday breakfast, a walk was essential so we set off on the Grand Trunk trail following an old railway trestle across the Thames River, admiring the colours of the season and remembering what we had seen on stage in Stratford.

Macbeth by William Shakespeare, Stratford Festival.
Lucy Peacock and Graham Abbey.

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Playing on the river

in Gananoque

No theatre does better intermissions than the Gananoque Playhouse, situated in a renovated 1909 canoe club on the shore of the St. Lawrence River. In between acts, my daughter and I love to catch the autumn breeze on large balconies overlooking the river and watch the harvest moon reflected in the rippled water. The playhouse is a comfortable, well-equipped theatre offering rousing productions of popular comedies. This fall, Canada's most-produced playwright, Norm Foster, appears in his own comedy, a two-actor show that's set – where else – on a balcony.

*we love to catch the
autumn breeze on
large balconies
overlooking the river
and watch the harvest
moon reflected in
the rippled water*

In autumn, we can't resist an afternoon cruise through the 1000 Islands to see September's prettiest scenery: fabulous old summer homes, forested islands populated by deer and tiny perfect islets big enough to support only a single tree and a gull. Because of the river's moderating climate, fall colours come a little later here than other parts of the province.

Romantics are drawn to the tragic tale of Boldt Castle, built by the millionaire proprietor of New York's Waldorf Astoria for his beloved bride at the turn of the last century. Construction of the mansion was stopped before it was completed when the young wife died suddenly.

Local bed and breakfast inns make suitably romantic retreats, like the Victoria Rose B&B, an 1872 red brick home built for the first mayor of Gananoque, where 19th century luxuries like fireplaces and four-poster queen beds, meet modern comforts like a double Jacuzzi tub.



I love driving through Niagara in the autumn, past acres of orchards, vineyards busy with the autumn crush, and roadside fruit stands piled high with plums and grapes.

Niagara's beauty isn't all on the vine, though. In the pretty-as-a-postcard town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, the Shaw Festival's highly-polished performances run right into December.

With three theatres, the festival offers as many as seven different shows in a single day. There's barely time to squeeze in that winery lunch. Peller Estates and Hillebrand both have outstanding restaurants on the fringe of town.



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One Yellow Rabbit's *Dream Machine*
Photo credit: Richard McDowell

The alternative cultural scene on the Queen Street West Art and Design District, that edgy neighbourhood where one-of-a-kind is a way of life, caters to the youthful and would-be youthful with an eclectic mix of cafés, clubs, bookstores, and boutiques. It's also a particularly fertile breeding ground for the city's alternative theatre scene.

I know I can always count on seeing something original, innovative and cleverly produced at Theatre Passe Muraille, situated in a remodeled bakery and stable on Ryerson

Avenue. With only 160 seats, the theatre's main stage is a small, intimate venue, but the talent is huge. Since the 1970s, Passe Muraille has been a major booster of original Canadian work. Writers like Linda Griffiths, Ann Marie MacDonald and Michael Ondaatje have launched their careers here. Sparse budgets mean the scenery may be meager, but imagination is always in abundant supply. Pay-what-you-can Sunday matinees fit even the slimmest wallets.

Passe Muraille's stage serves as a

venue for another Queen West cultural icon, the Necessary Angel Theatre Company, which first made a name for itself in 1981 with *Tamara*, an environmental production that went on to become a sensation in Los Angeles and New York. Committed to developing new Canadian plays, Necessary Angel stages its productions in Queen West clubs like the Left Bank and the Gladstone Hotel as well as the Theatre Centre, an intimate performance and workshop space for emerging artists and radical works.

the theatre's
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small, intimate
venue, but the
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On nearby Bathurst Street is another staple of the city's alternative theatre scene: a yellow brick Victorian mansion now home to Factory Theatre. Artistic Director Ken Gass has been pioneering the works of Canadian playwrights for more than three decades. Writers like George F. Walker and David Freeman cut their teeth here with critically acclaimed productions. Like Passe Muraille, Factory Theatre lures students, artists

and other budget-conscious theatre-lovers with pay-what-you-can Sunday matinees.

Before the show, Tequila Bookworm is a favourite place to linger, not just for the great soy lattes but for the news-stand full of magazines to pour over while munching a sprout and avocado-filled sandwich. Faded sofas and exposed brick add to the comfy atmosphere. Queen Street's dining ranges from the vegetarian chic of Fressen to scrumptious afternoon tea with a twist at Red Tea Box. Not your usual cream tea, this odd little jewel of a café serves up scones seasoned with lavender, sandwiches stuffed with tea-seasoned chicken and an assortment of precious pastries. After the show, theatre-goers frequent the Epicure Café for burgers and bistro style food. Whatever you order, be sure to get it with fries — they're some of the city's best.

Queen Street's wide sidewalks seem to be made for loitering. Everyone from suburban teenagers to die-hard downtowners hang here, joined by chronic shoppers who cruise the boutiques for funky

fashions at Annie Thompson and Comrags, or tarragon and black pepper chocolate truffles at JS Bonbons.

At the end of the day the newly renovated Drake Hotel is the hottest place for an out-of-towner to park a suitcase. The 19th century railway hotel recently underwent a sleek \$6-million transformation. Small, but smart rooms are reasonably priced and the Drake's lounges are now becoming a Queen West fixture. Some of the city's hippest bands perform in the Drake's Underground on a state-of-the-art sound system.

Summer may be over, but September is the month when we don our darkest sunglasses and pretend we are celebrities while stargazing in the smart, uptown bistros of Yorkville and Bloor St. during the Toronto International Film Festival. I've bumped into Glenn Close in an elevator and seen Bill Murray at a screening. Trophy sightings abound as actors and studio types check out the coming season's new releases, plus international offerings at downtown cinemas. Later in the month, the Word on the Street brings book

lovers and authors to a literary street party.

This year the acclaimed publishing fest moves to the tree-shaded grounds of Queen's Park.

T.O. tix

For half price tickets on the day of the performance check out the T.O. Tix booth in Dundas Square at the southeast corner of Yonge and Dundas,

416-536-6468, ext. 40 or www.totix.ca



Photo © 2004 Theatre Aquarius, Geoffrey Patterson and Steven Thompson. Photography by Guy Trunnell. www.guytrunnell.com

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

STRATFORD

Stratford Festival of Canada performances run to November 17. For details contact the box office, 1-800-567-1600, www.stratfordfestival.ca

GANANOQUE

Gananoque Playhouse, (613) 382-7020, www.1000islandsplayhouse.com

The Victoria Rose Inn, (613) 382-3368 or 1-888-246-2893 or www.victoriaroseinn.com

For packages in the Kingston area, visit www.sharekingston.com or call 1-888-855-4555.

NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

Shaw Festival, 1-800-5H-SHAW or (905) 468-2172, or www.shawfest.com

TORONTO

Theatre Passe Muraille, (416) 504-PLAY www.passemuraille.on.ca

Factory Theatre, (416) 504-9971 www.factorytheatre.ca

The Theatre Centre, (416) 538-0988 www.theatrecentre.org

The Drake Hotel, (416) 531-5042 www.thedrakehotel.ca

This year Word on the Street, Queen's Park, Sunday September 26 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., (416) 504-7241, www.thewordonthestreet.ca/toronto.php

Toronto International Film Festival, September 9 to 18, (416) 968-FILM, www.bell.ca/filmfest

HAMILTON

Brave New Works Festival, November 15 to 19. Theatre Aquarius Box Office 1-800-465-PLAY, (905) 522-PLAY, www.theatreaquarius.org

Audience participation in Hamilton

Steel town shows its softer side in the carefully crafted productions of Theatre Aquarius. Canadian plays with wide audience appeal are performed in the comfort of the 750-seat Dofasco Theatre and attract a wide regional audience. In November, audiences participate in the page-to-stage process of developing new plays at the Brave New Works Festival, when nightly readings of new scripts are followed by lively audience discussions led by artistic director Max Reimer.

It's easy to make a weekend of it: I love to browse the antique and specialty shops of Locke Street, shopping for Vietnamese silk dresses at Mundo, colourful Fiestaware at Olive's Oddments and French lavender-scented soaps at Pure. Grab a pressed Portobello mushroom sandwich at the Bad Dog Café, then take an autumnal walk through the Royal Botanical Gardens, exploring avenues of stately trees in the arboretum and myriad trails winding around the wetlands of Coote's Paradise. . .

— Betty Zvavkaukas is a well known Ontario freelance writer, who loves travel, food and nature.

THEATRE CONTACTS

Discover the abundance of theatre in Ontario through ASTRO (the Association of Summer Theatres 'Round Ontario. For information contact www.summertheatre.org or Theatre Ontario at (416) 408-4556.

For information on theatre and accommodations packages contact 1-800-ONTARIO or www.justtheticket.ca

For accommodations, visit www.ontariosfinestinns.com, 1-800-340-INNS and for even more, log on to www.ontariotownandcountry.ca and www.ontariotravel.net

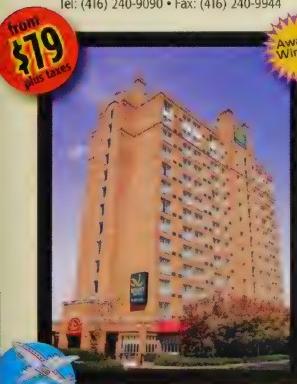


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a birder doesn't forget the first sighting
that launches them on the compulsive
path to seek out the rare and wonderful.

– Betty Zvatkauskas

winging it

For me it was a flock of swans flying high above a cornfield just north of Lake Erie.

I was scraping November's first frost from the car windshield when I heard their high-pitched calls.

Looking up I saw them flying in long ribbon formations: great white ghost birds barely visible in a pale sky. Migrating from their tundra nesting grounds above the Arctic Circle, these behemoth birds were on their way to their wintering grounds on the U.S. eastern seaboard.

I had never seen truly wild swans before. Wings unclipped, spirit untamed, they were glamorous guests just passing through my Southern Ontario neighbourhood like visiting movie stars. I resolved to watch their return in March. This time I found them in the water, placidly cruising among floating slabs of ice at Hillman Marsh Conservation Area, north of Point Pelee.

Until that initial swan-sighting, bird-watching had seemed like an obscure pastime for the socially awkward – think Miss Hathaway on the Beverly Hillbillies – but after that encounter I eagerly began to

seek out the advice of more experienced birders.

Although I have never kept a life list, or even purchased expensive binoculars, I became enchanted by the remarkable diversity of Ontario's bird populations and the magical opportunities we have to see rare visitors during migration seasons.

Even if a bird-lover never learns to differentiate a broad-winged from a red-shouldered hawk, or a Tennessee warbler from an Orange-crowned warbler, the

sight of migrating birds still stirs the soul. I've never been good at identifying birds – even at close range. When my children insisted on raising an injured, orphaned, near featherless baby bird they found on a Toronto sidewalk, I spent many fruitless days trying to feed it mashed sardines until

my sensible sister-in-law pointed out that it was probably a pigeon, not a gull, and would much prefer a little corn. Against all odds, the pigeon thrived and flew off. That's the miracle of birds: their ability to come and go – not as they please, but as nature tells them. Every time we glimpse V-formations of geese pushing south, we feel the planet's primordial pulse.

bird-watching had seemed like an obscure pastime for the socially awkward – think Miss Hathaway on the Beverly Hillbillies

Waterfowl at Presqu'ile

Fall migration begins in August at Presqu'ile as tens of thousands of Arctic shorebirds arrive at this 10-kilometre (6.25-mile)-long spit stretching south into Lake Ontario, near Brighton where they stop to feed at a veritable bird buffet.

Staging areas like this offer long-distance migrants an important opportunity to fatten up before continuing on the next leg of their journey. Some, like red knots, fly as much as 28,962 kilometres (18,000 miles) in a migration across the Americas, so good feeding grounds are essential to their journey. At Presqu'ile, staff groom some of the sandy beaches for the convenience of swimmers and sunbathers, but they keep others au naturel, leaving a feast of algae, insects and small crustaceans for the sandpipers, plovers, red knots, godwits and whimbrels to peck in the sands and the shallows.

While Presqu'ile's sandy shores prove inviting for birds, they were a hazard for 19th century sailors. After the Solicitor General of Upper Canada and

park it



several other prominent citizens were lost in a shipwreck, a lighthouse was erected in the 1840s. The white-washed lighthouse, one of the oldest on the Great Lakes, stands adjacent to a new interpretive centre where visitors can learn more about the

area's marine heritage, pick up a few tips on birds, join one of the interpretive programs, or meet other birders. It was here I met one of the most enthusiastic

birders I've ever seen. He came rushing in with binoculars swinging from his neck, ran right over to the ladies' washroom and shouted through the door: "Quick, Harriet, there's a king eider just off shore!" I don't know if Harriet ever saw the eider, but Presqu'ile is known for its duck sightings, especially in mid-March when it's not unusual to see a raft of 2,000 scaups swimming together and diving underwater for mollusks. The park's varied habitats cater to many different avian appetites. Long-tails dive deep in Lake Ontario for zebra mussels while shallow marshes appeal to grebes. Gulls, cormorants



"Quick, Harriet, there's a king eider just off shore!"

and herons breed on offshore islands. Goldeneye and bufflehead ducks frequent the open waters.

Weekend interpretive programs from September 11 to October 10 help visitors identify the shorebirds. In March, they focus on the masses of mergansers, goldeneyes and teals. A guided walk led by one of the park's naturalists helps novice birders distinguish the redheads from the ring-necks. For someone who knew

ducks only as mallards in a city park, the variety seems amazing, but birding at Presqu'ile isn't just about the birds. While walking the beach, I've seen deer hoof prints in the sand. A resident herd of white tail deer is often sighted in the calf pasture clearing.

Monarch butterflies migrate through Presqu'ile in late August and early September. Look for them shortly after dawn, sunning

themselves on trees to warm up for the difficult flight across Lake Ontario. Much of the butterfly-tagging that enabled University of Toronto professor Frederick Urquhart to discover the monarch's migration to Mexico was done and continues at Presqu'ile. Every Labour Day weekend (September 4–5) a special program allows the public to participate in bird banding and butterfly tagging.

The advertisement features a large landscape photograph of a forested area with autumn foliage and a body of water. Overlaid on the left side is the Ontario Parks logo, which includes a stylized green and blue graphic and the words "ONTARIO PARKS". In the center, the words "Nearby and Natural" are written in a flowing, cursive script. In the bottom right corner, there is a smaller inset image showing two people walking along a path in a forest. Another inset image in the top right corner shows a person standing near a tall wooden structure, possibly a nesting box or observation post, in a wooded area.

For a copy of your Ontario Parks Guide, call 1-800-ONTARIO or visit www.OntarioParks.com

Reserve your campsite by calling 1-800-ONT-PARK or visit www.ontarioparks.com



gulls

fall for Niagara

When I first saw the serious-looking crowd peering intently into the foaming fury at the foot of Niagara Falls, I thought they were looking for survivors of a boating tragedy, but their scopes were trained on several species of gulls seldom seen inland. At Niagara Falls I learned to appreciate the diversity of gulls. Seagulls, as I was taught not to call them, are not one homogenous gull gang, but many varied species — herring, ring-billed, great black-backed and glaucous — many of which are remarkably well travelled. In November it may be possible to see a dozen species

drawn from across the continent to Niagara's tumultuous waters. Franklin's gulls travel from their nesting grounds on prairie sloughs. Great black-backed gulls may fly inland from the north Atlantic, while Bonaparte's gulls visit from the western Arctic. It's thought that they're drawn by Niagara's fast-moving water that stays open year-round. It can't hurt that a fair number of fish are killed in the tumult of the falls and the hydroelectric generating stations down river, providing an easy meal for hungry birds.



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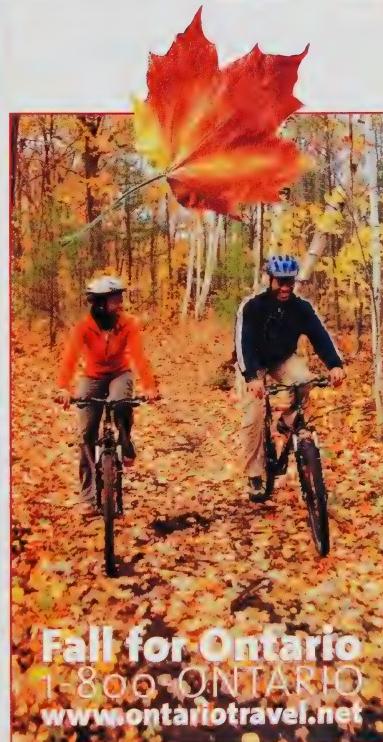
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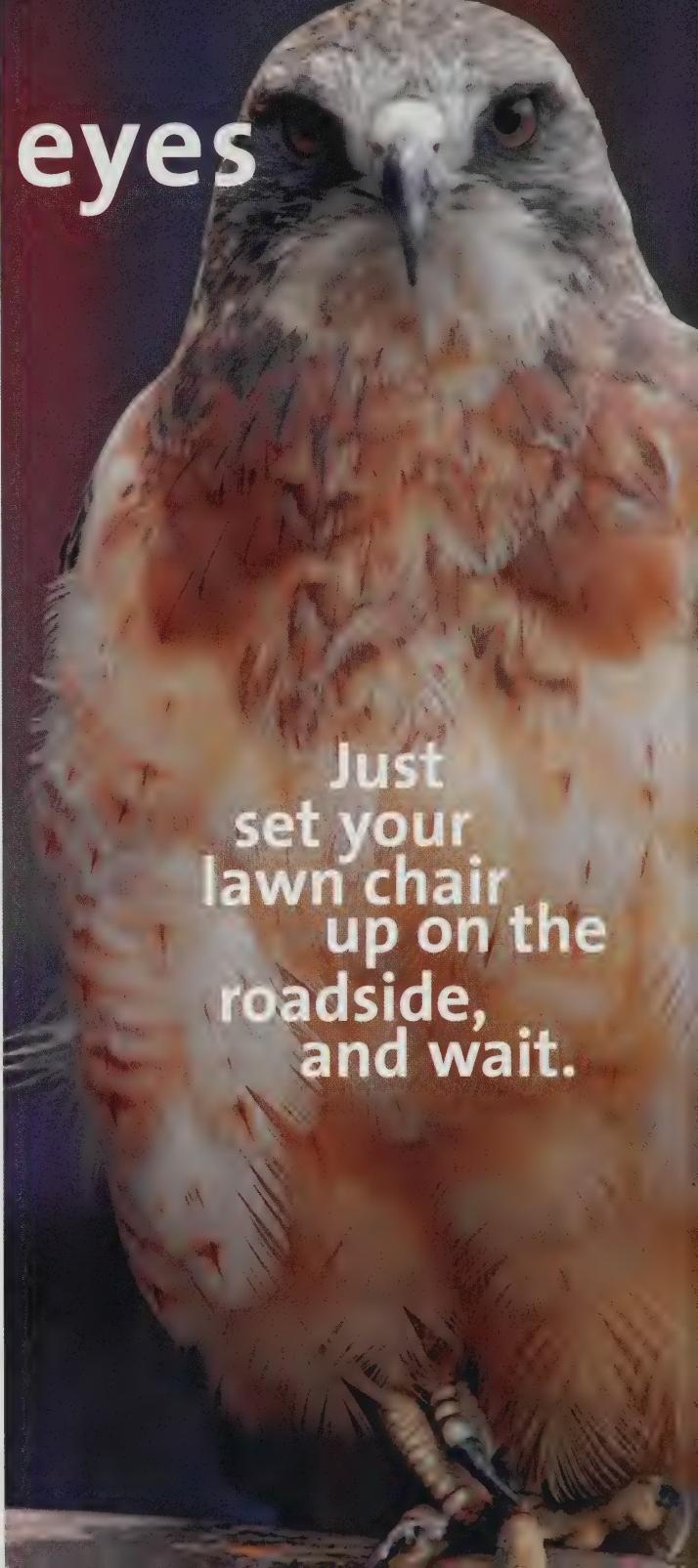


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Hawk eyes

Autumn offers a rare chance to see otherwise solitary birds in vast numbers. Like motorists sharing the same southbound expressway, broad-winged hawks are sometimes seen in the tens of thousands at Hawk Cliff near Port Stanley. This is some of the easiest bird-watching I've ever done. No need to arrive in the pre-dawn hours, or wait for wet weather. A clear, sunny afternoon is best. That's when a high-pressure system from the north brings the birds cruising in on a tail wind. Just set your lawn chair up on the roadside, and wait. By midday the sun will have warmed the air enough to create strong thermal winds, enabling the hawks to slowly circle higher and higher with little or no flapping. Then it's an easy glide to the next updraft as they head west toward the Detroit River where they can be easily sighted at Holiday Beach Conservation Area, home of the annual hawk watch festival. While hawks may be the stars of the show, Holiday Beach is also known for large flocks of ruby-throated hummingbirds and various songbirds.



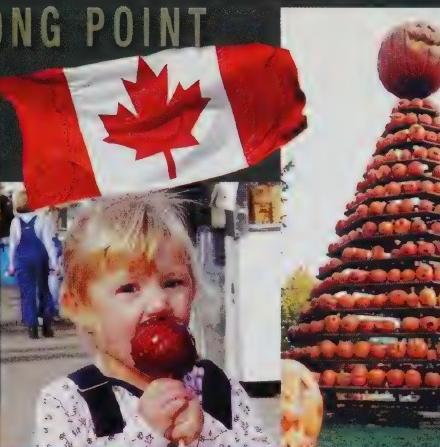
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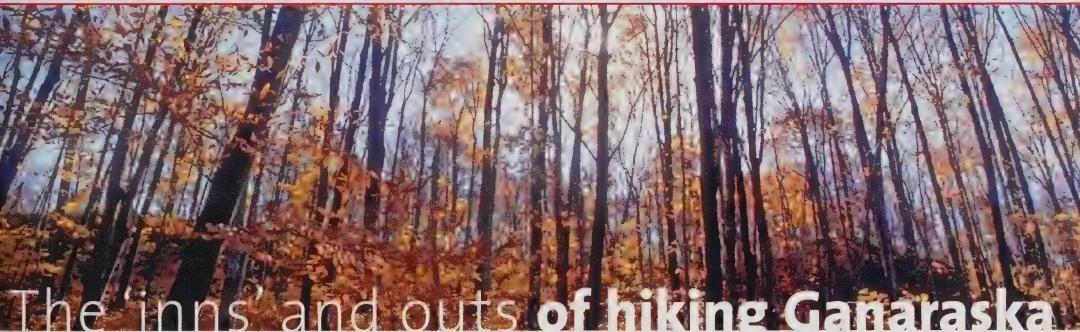
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And to think that only yesterday, legs were tired, the sun was hot and your vital berry supply was running low. You saw some comfortable looking tree roots and were about to crash for the night, when, like an oasis in the desert, a beautiful bed and breakfast slowly rose over the horizon. The inn is a welcome sight, where friendly staff await, even if you don't arrive until late in the evening.

So, if you love to hike but aren't fond of sleeping in a tent, spend your nights in convenient and comfortable inns with Ganaraska Inn-to-Inn Trails. Visit www.siberi-inn.ca/inntoinn.html for all the inns and outs.

This marsh is mellow for

HERONS



Just a stone's throw from Highway 401, the marsh adjacent to General Motors' headquarters has undergone extensive rehabilitation to keep out the carp and encourage the breeding of native fish. Fish and frogs, in turn, provide a meal for those higher up the food chain, particularly herons. On a September afternoon I've seen dozens of great blue herons standing in the waters of Oshawa's Second Marsh on Lake Ontario. Slowly they pick their way through the shallows silently stalking unsuspecting fish and frogs. Nearby a smaller black-crowned night heron stood so still it was almost impossible to see. Boardwalks and viewing platforms made it easy to stalk the stalkers. Beyond the marsh a pleasant trail winds to the lakefront where massive willows lean over the path and swallows play in the on-shore breeze. Walk east along the pebble beach, with the wind snapping your hair, to watch gulls and shorebirds.

Songbirds join the BAND

Many of the mysteries of migration have been revealed through bird-banding projects that rely on hundreds of volunteers. One of North America's most impressive bird-banding stations is Long Point Provincial Park on the north shore of Lake Erie where more than 600,000 birds have been banded since the 1960s. Drop by the Old Cut Observatory between 9 a.m. and noon during spring or fall migration and you may be able to see them plucking a songbird from the fine mist nets, fastening an aluminum band onto its leg and recording it for continent-wide studies. By studying the wear of a bird's feathers and colouring of its eyes, experienced birders make observations about its age and health. Glimpsing a rare sandhill crane in a neighbouring marsh may sound glamorous, but that first close-up look at a bird in hand – be it the humblest of sparrows – will always be remembered.

– Betty Zyvatkauskas is a well known freelance writer, based in Toronto, specializing in travel, food and nature.

Bird watching



Point Pelee Provincial Park

bird calls

Create your own species list from the Royal Ontario Museum's on-line field guide at [www.ROM.on.ca/Ontario/fieldguides.php](http://www ROM on ca/Ontario/fieldguides php)

Since many more birds are heard than seen, the recorded bird calls are particularly helpful.

Presquile Provincial Park,
(613) 475-4324;
[www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca](http://www friendsofpresquile on ca)

Friends of Second Marsh
(905) 723-5047.
[www.secondmarsh.com](http://www secondmarsh com)

Hawk Cliff, Kettle Creek Conservation Authority
(519) 631-1270 or
[www.naturallyelgin.org/bird17.html](http://www naturallyelgin org/bird17 html) or
[www.ezlink.ca/~thebrowns/HawkCliff/](http://www ezlink ca/~thebrowns/HawkCliff/)

Holiday Beach Conservation Area, Essex Region Conservation Authority, (519) 736-3772 or [www.erca.org/ca/hbca/hbca.htm](http://www erca org/ca/hbca/hbca htm)

Long Point bird observatory, 519-586-2885 or [www.bsc-eoc.org/lpbo.html](http://www bsc eoc org/lpbo html) and [www.ontarioparks.ca/english/long.html](http://www ontarioparks ca/english/long html)

Point Pelee National Park, the southernmost point on mainland Canada, is one of the best locations to observe fall bird migrations. For information call (519) 322-2365 or visit [www.parkscanada.ca](http://www parkscanada ca)

If you are looking for a place to 'nest' while admiring the birds, [www.ontariotravel.net](http://www ontariotravel net) has all kinds of accommodation ideas.

Marvel at the colour and diversity of Ontario's birds with an outdoor adventure package found at [www.ontariotravel.net/outdoors](http://www ontariotravel net/outdoors)

FALL for Ontario

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A woman with long, wavy red hair is laughing heartily, her head tilted back. She is wearing a red plaid shirt over a black top and dark pants. A man with short brown hair is looking towards her from behind, wearing a light-colored t-shirt. They are outdoors, surrounded by large, light-colored rocks.

get
hooked
on a feelin'

This may come as a pleasant surprise to avid anglers, but there's more to a

Northern Ontario getaway than just reeling in a monster catch. Sure, some of the world's largest fish frequent the waters 'Up North', but with resort hot tubs, saunas, docks, beaches, fireplaces and cosy cabins, the idea of a romantic getaway isn't that far-fetched.

Join your partner boating on a secluded lake and throw in a line for a chance to catch the king fish of them all: the mighty muskie. But if you do catch one, please release it for another lucky angler to claim. Just remember a quick snap of the camera to prove to friends and family that you caught the big one. Bring along a rod and reel in a trophy fish of your own. But if you want to fish when the fish do, you'll have to get up early.

While you're out on the open water, tour the lake's surroundings: the fall colours, jagged rocks and wildlife aplenty. Some lucky visitors even catch a glimpse of such beloved Ontario icons as moose and eagles – you're practically guaranteed some of the finest nature photos you've ever taken.



Dock your boat and slip on chest waders to get up close and personal with your partner and a few brook trout. Reel in your lunch and enjoy a noontime picnic pan-frying your spoils on the water's edge. Savour each other's company on the lakeside dock and listen to the mystical call of the loon.

Afternoons pass quickly and before you know it, it's dinnertime for both you and the fish. Try trolling your line – fish love moving lures and some pounce only after stalking the bait. As the sun sets, head back to shore and cuddle up on your lakeside dock. Fry up a couple of fish for dinner and freeze the rest for another memorable meal back home.

There are few other places in the world where couples can rent romantic lakefront cabins, eat fresh fish and catch some of the largest muskies in the world. It's where wildlife still reign supreme and where humans are honoured guests: Northern Ontario. 



Rocky Crest Resort, Lake Joseph



Honey Harbour, Georgian Bay



Voyageur Quest Log Cabin, Algonquin

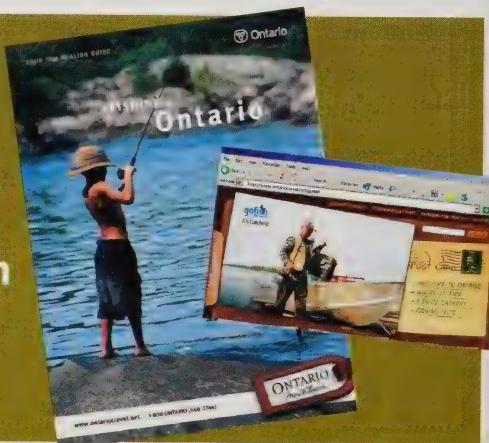


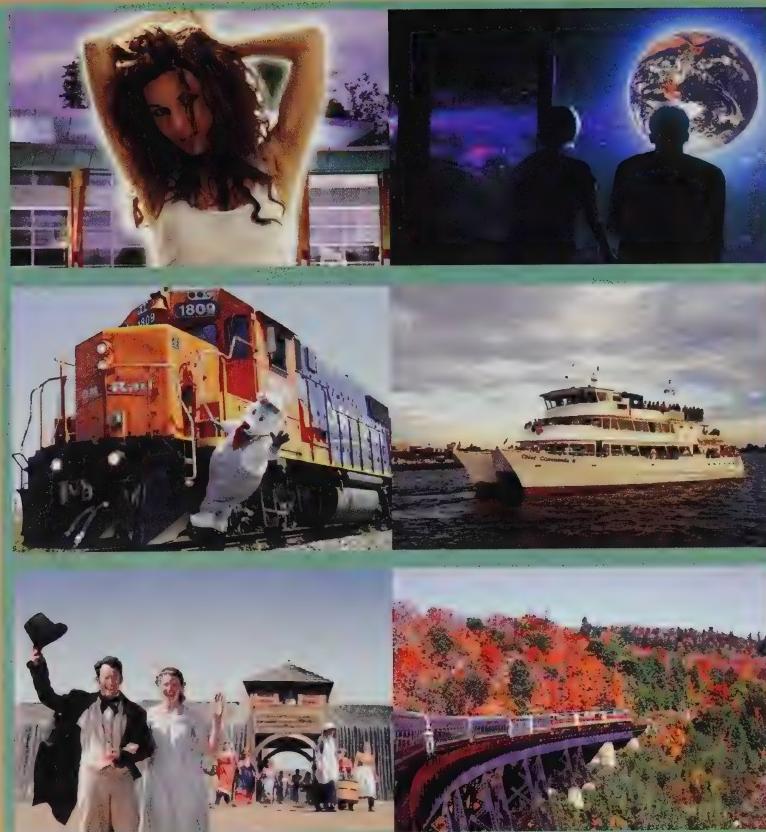
A fish called muskie

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- Try using catch-and-release techniques when fishing in Ontario. And if you can't get the hook out, please snip the line; you'll lose the hook, but you'll save the life of the fish
- Visit the Ontario Muskie Alliance at www.muskieontario.com for fishing regulations and licensing information as well as maps required on a northern getaway
- Be sure to visit www.fishontario.ca. It lists dozens of resorts with amenities to make this getaway the best ever: wood-stoked fireplaces, cosy beds, maid service, relaxing hot tubs, saunas and more. It's also a great place to find all the fishing info you need
- For enthusiasts and beginners alike, receive fishing information, package details and your free fishing guide by calling 1-800-ONTARIO or visiting www.ontariotravel.net/gofish

Steve Hartung, Musky Hunter Magazine

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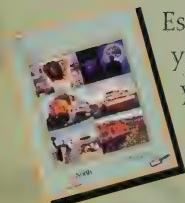




Northern Delights

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get the most of the

Do you like spooky ghosts and eerie sounds? Do you jump out of your skin at the mere thought of a grotesque goblin lurking in the shadows? Have you ever seen the movie Ghostbusters? If you said 'yes' to any of the above, you're in top shape for a scary good time this Halloween, and one the kids will always remember.

Kingston

Experience a creepy tour through historic Kingston with a ghost connoisseur guide draped in black

and illuminated only by a lantern. If you dare follow him down the moonlit streets, you'll get a look at Kingston's haunted buildings and utterly mysterious carriageways. If that's not frightening enough, just wait till you hear the creepy stories. It'll send shivers up your spine.

Sudbury

Sudbury's Science North will double-dare you to descend deeper than the dead into the Haunted Abyss, a dark and eerie cavern so deep, your screams from below echo

like mere whimpers. If you're still in the mood to be scared silly after such a frightful experience, check out the mummies in the creepy catacombs or take the kids on a scary scavenger hunt for goodies. Are your knees feeling weak yet? There's nothing like a family Halloween party to celebrate our human need to be spooked.

Ottawa

Saunders Farm, near Ottawa has Haunted Hayrides, a Barn of Terror, a Kids Discovery Barn, the Ghost



Town stage, ghost stories and six daytime mazes. Great for the family, although only those over 10-years-old are recommended to attend the evening events.

London

Finish off your terrifying tour at the Shriners Haunted Mansion in London. It's where you'll catch a ghost playing an organ, skeletons roaming a graveyard and if you're 'lucky,' you'll have an undead creature brush up beside you.

Spooky indeed. Every turn you take,

spectacular special effects and eerie holographic illusions play with your mind and tempt you to believe in these odd apparitions. It's creepy, it's unbelievable and it's the perfect Halloween treat for families looking for more spookiness and less blood-curdling terror. If your kids want to be spooked this Halloween and not bouncing off the walls with sugar, get out of the house and exhume some fun back in their lives. For information on Halloween haunts see page 72. 

Photo courtesy of Dynamic Earth, Sudbury and Mike Dupont.

Halloween Haunts

Are Kingston's buildings hiding a haunting past? Is there any truth to these creepy tales that local residents swear by? Find out in the dead of night, visit www.hauntedwalk.com or call (613) 549-6366 for more information on the Haunted Walk of Kingston's year-long tour or the special Halloween edition.

If you dare, Science North has a week of fun-filled family Halloween events, visit www.sciencenorth.com or call 1-800-461-4898 for dates, times and all the spooky info.

For information on the Saunders Farm Halloween activities, visit www.saundersfarm.com or call (613) 838-5440.

Then visit www.timothydrake.ca/mansion or call (519) 672-1391 for fun suitable for guests of all ages and space dimensions at the Shriners Haunted Mansion, Western Fairgrounds, London.

Oakville has a lantern-lit walking tour of historical and haunted sights in the downtown area, every Friday and Saturday night until November. One of the stops is the St. John's United Church, where the organ has been heard playing when no-one was in the building. For reservations call (905) 339-9450, or visit www.ontarionghosts.org/oakvillewalks

- Trick or Treat in Riverside Campground at Pinery Provincial Park on Halloween Weekend October 30 and 31. Howl at the coyotes, talk to bats, decorate a scarecrow, and tour the Haunted Lambton Heritage Museum. Call (519) 243-2220 or visit www.ontarioparks.com
- Search our online database at www.ontariotravel.net for more spooky Halloween events.

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Take some time out for reflection and rejuvenation with an Ontario spa experience.
www.spasontario.com

Fall's vibrant colours paint a picturesque backdrop for unique and wonderful life-enhancing experiences in Ontario. From tantalizing cooking and dining experiences at Ontario's finest inns to kayaking adventures alongside Killarney Provincial Park, we invite you to connect with your surroundings like you've never done before.

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Find incredible experiences right here in the Exclusively Ours department of *inOntario* with packages that cater to a wide variety of interests: theatre-goers, art lovers, outdoor adventurers, food connoisseurs and the list goes on.

In this issue, you'll discover the thrilling experience of riding an ATV through Cochrane's picturesque woodlands and feel the awe of photographing nature's finest landscapes at Wawa in November. Explore a world where landscape and learning co-exist. Discover Ontario; there's something for everyone.

Experience Nutcracker Neighbourhood in Old Town Toronto as it transforms into a magical celebration of the festive season.
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A sampling of Ontario getaway packages are available through your local travel agency. For more information on Backroads and Getaways, visit
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www.torontojazzlive.com



exclusively ours

Fall wheelin'

By John Farrington

Looking for an exhilarating and different way to spend a fall weekend?

Cochrane Tourism Association has just partnered with ATV Ontario for a package they call Rails, Trails and Rivers.

It's an introduction to the remote beauty of Northern Ontario. You take the Little Bear – the workhorse brother of Ontario Northland's Polar Bear Express – to Fraserdale, 112 kilometres (70 miles) from Cochrane, then ride an all-terrain vehicle (ATV), paddle a canoe, hike through the bush, eat in a teepee and sleep in a prospector's tent.

I had never been on an all-terrain vehicle and a canoe is way out of my comfort zone.

No worries about the ATV. It is a fully-guided experience. You meet the night before and the guide goes over the highlights of the trip and tells you about what the last group saw – moose, bear, big fish (the sturgeon in these waters are huge). The next morning, the guide gives you an introductory lesson on how to ride these beautiful machines. Also, you'll be told how to enjoy the

ride over trails that never see a grader, in some places are washed out, and are riddled with potholes that would bottom-out your car.

Five minutes into the paddling on the great Abitibi River and I quietly asked myself 'why all the fear?'

About 1.5 kilometres (one mile) upstream, is New Post Falls, one of Ontario's least-known treasures.

Very few people know about it and fewer still have seen it, even though it has been crashing and thundering over the rocks through the deep gorge for thousands of years. Nature has placed a marker over the falls – a rainbow, visible only to those who venture up the old, overgrown, slippery and moss-carpeted path.

The sounds of silence are deafening...the gentle lap of the paddle splashing in the water, the rat-tat-tat-tat of the woodpecker, the varied sounds of other birds, the gentle squelching of mud and water inside your boots, the roar of the waterfall, all add to the experience.

In 24 hours it was over. All made possible by the finely-tuned all-terrain vehicles that can get to places seen previously by only those who trapped here, lived here and died here.

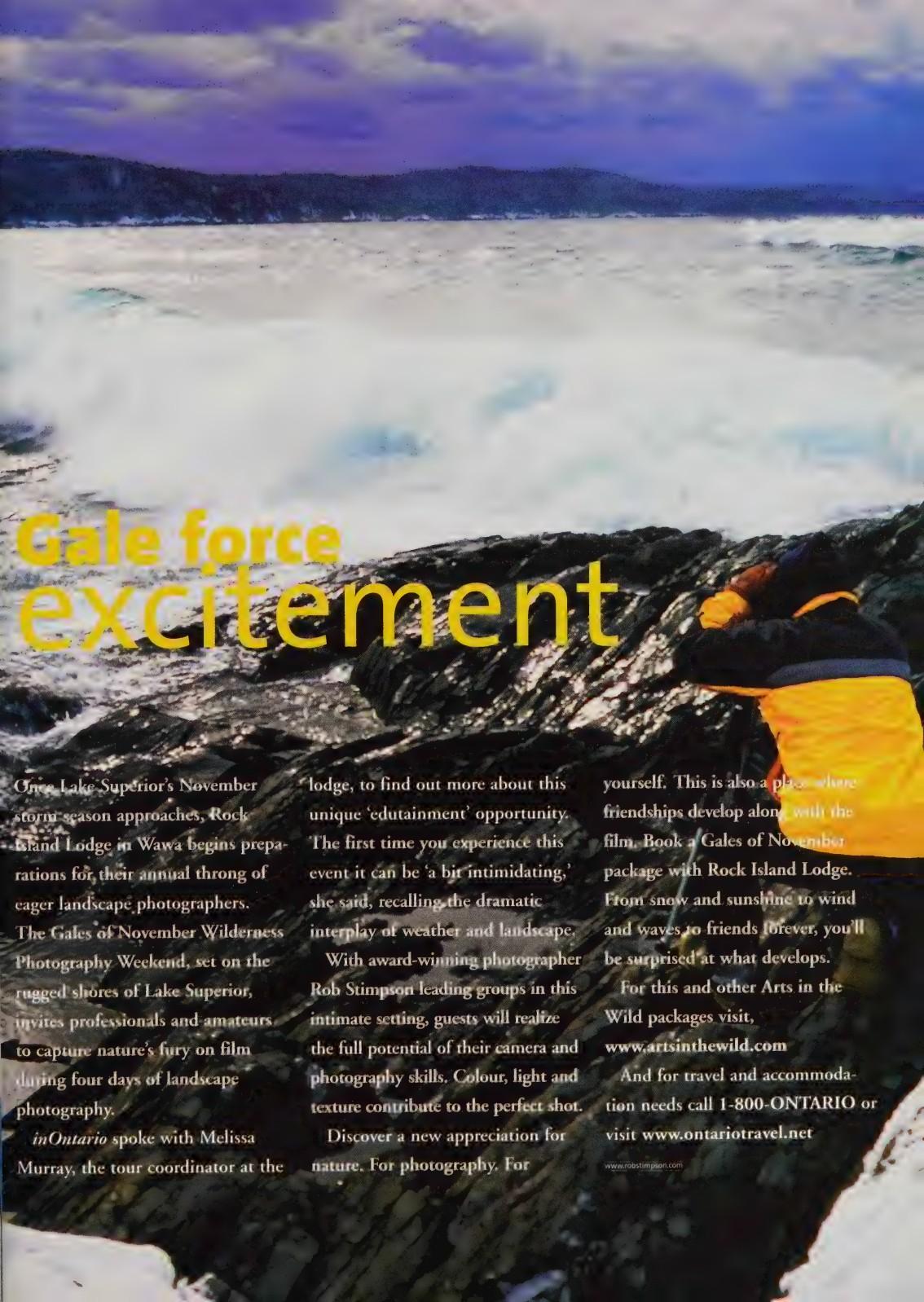
For more information, call Cochrane Tourism Association at 1-800-354-9948 or check www.atvontario.com/cochrane

There are four other ATV Ontario destinations, offering a total of 25 different packages. They are all fully guided throughout Eastern Ontario, Elliot Lake, Georgian Bay and Mattawa.

Visit www.atvontario.com and for other travel and accommodation information call 1-800-ONTARIO or www.ontariotravel.net

– John Farrington has been the editor and publisher of a number of daily newspapers in Ontario.





Gale force excitement

Once Lake Superior's November storm season approaches, Rock Island Lodge in Wawa begins preparations for their annual throng of eager landscape photographers. The Gales of November Wilderness Photography Weekend, set on the rugged shores of Lake Superior, invites professionals and amateurs to capture nature's fury on film during four days of landscape photography.

inOntario spoke with Melissa Murray, the tour coordinator at the

lodge, to find out more about this unique 'edutainment' opportunity. The first time you experience this event it can be 'a bit intimidating,' she said, recalling the dramatic interplay of weather and landscape.

With award-winning photographer Rob Stimpson leading groups in this intimate setting, guests will realize the full potential of their camera and photography skills. Colour, light and texture contribute to the perfect shot.

Discover a new appreciation for nature. For photography. For

yourself. This is also a place where friendships develop along with the film. Book a Gales of November package with Rock Island Lodge. From snow and sunshine to wind and waves to friends forever, you'll be surprised at what develops.

For this and other Arts in the Wild packages visit, www.artsinthewild.com

And for travel and accommodation needs call 1-800-ONTARIO or visit www.ontariotravel.net

www.robstimpson.com

great escapes





FALL OF THE WILD

Have you ever wondered what's in that little out of the way town? Are you looking for a park or natural retreat that's slightly off the beaten track? Or do you simply want to find out more about some better known corner of Ontario?

Welcome to Great Escapes, a department of *inOntario* magazine that we hope will whet your appetite for an Ontario you've never seen before. Or help you discover or rediscover a special place or attraction that's always intrigued you.

In this premiere issue of *inOntario*, come with us on an autumn jaunt through four breathtaking fall colour regions – Muskoka, the Ottawa Valley, the Rideau Canal Corridor, and Lake Superior's North Shore.

Come along for a marvellous tour of the 30,000 Islands aboard the *Island Queen*, and a trip to Muskoka to visit the Johnston's Cranberry Marsh at harvest time. Let *inOntario* help you discover the rich logging history, natural heritage and archaeological significance of the Ottawa Valley, and explore little towns and villages at 19th century Rideau Canal lockstations. Let us introduce you to the fascinating biodiversity of Ontario's newest UNESCO Biosphere Reserve – the Thousand Islands-Frontenac Arch, and acquaint you with the attractions in Sault Ste. Marie. There are "stop and stay over" lodges along the fabled Agawa Canyon Tour line. All right here in Ontario!

great escapes

berry yourself in Muskoka

—Cathy Bennett

Amy Neunsinger/Food Pix/Getty Images

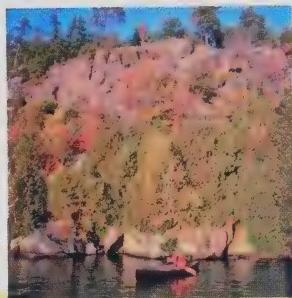
When I begin to see the eruption of pink granite outcrops along Highway 400 near Waubaushene, I know I will soon be amid that magnificent spectacle of blazing golds, oranges, burgundies and bright reds dancing among the majestic pines.

Once again, my husband John and I are on our much-anticipated autumn pilgrimage into the Georgian Bay/Muskoka region. And like every other year, we are not disappointed with the magnificent

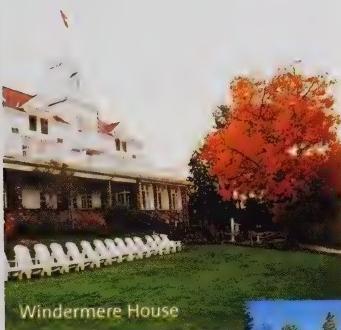
my mind, provides one of the best introductions to – and tours of – the 30,000 Islands anytime of the year. For three solid hours, John and I are not only treated to some of the most beautiful fall scenery in the world, but also to a fascinating, running narrative about these ancient Ojibwa islands once explored by Champlain. All for only \$25 with highlights that include Depot Harbour ghost town, Rose Point Swing Bridge, Killbear

of zillions of bright red berries floating in the flooded bogs, and we stop and watch for a few moments as a mechanical picker gently combs the berries off the vines.

Founded in 1952 by Orville Johnston, this family run farm is one of the two commercial cranberry growing operations in Bala, Ontario, with the other being the Iroquois Cranberry Growers. June Johnston, a former home economist, fondly



Muskoka



Windermere House

display of colour as we head towards Parry Sound to kick things off with a fall cruise aboard the *Island Queen*. The following day, we are set for a picturesque drive through Muskoka and a stop at Johnston's Cranberry Marsh near Bala – the 'Cranberry Capital' of Ontario.

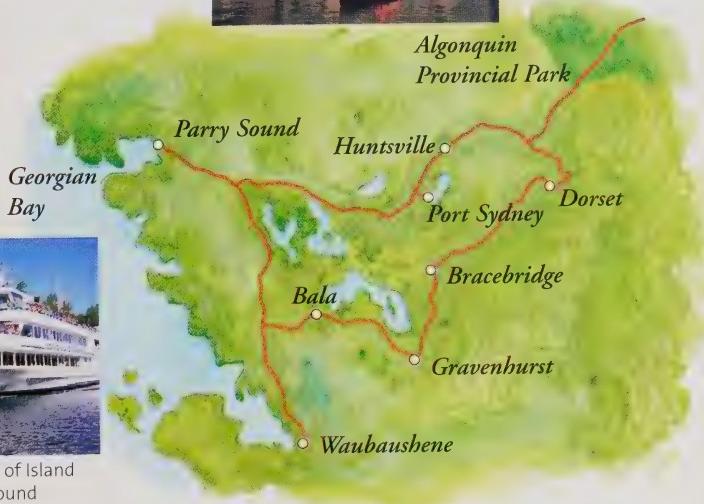
Built to accommodate 550 passengers, the *Island Queen* is Canada's largest sightseeing cruise ship, and to



Photo courtesy of Island Queen, Parry Sound

Provincial Park, the island retreat of Irving Berlin and Hole in the Wall – an incredibly scenic channel that upon approaching looks far too narrow for "the Queen."

At Johnston's Cranberry Marsh, we're greeted with the awesome sight



known as "Mrs. J" still makes all the preserves that are sold in the amazing gift shop, where we are tempted by everything cranberry, including the cranberry and fruit wines from the Muskoka Lakes Winery. Established



Photo courtesy of Johnston's Cranberry Marsh, Bala

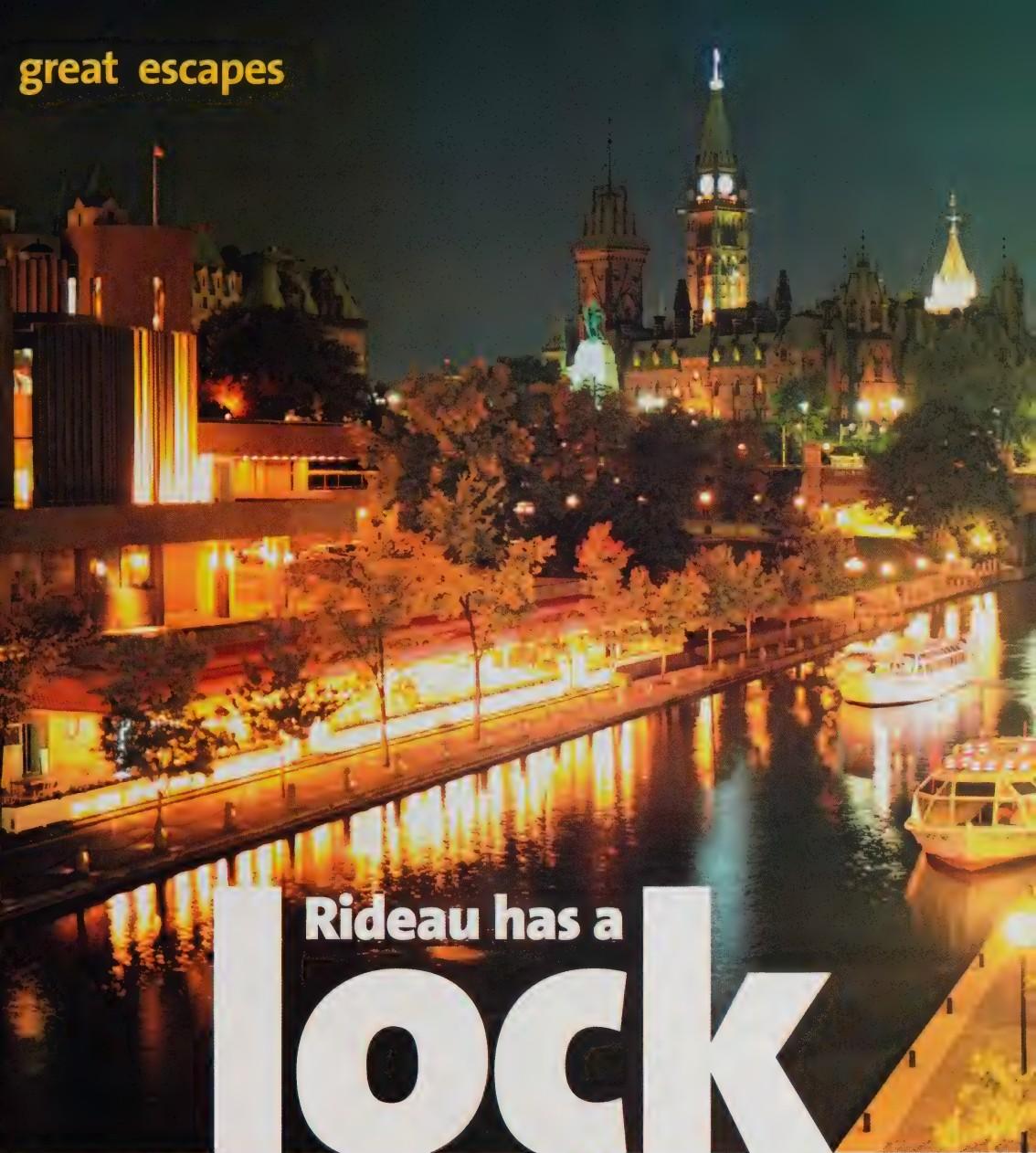
in 2001 it is also located on the property. Across the road from the winery and gift shop, we sample some of our irresistible cranberry goodies and decide that a trek through the woods on one of the six marked Cranberry Trails is a wonderful way to wind up our Muskoka experience.

—Cathy Bennett is a travel writer whose work regularly appears in major publications. She is often found cruising the beautiful back roads of Ontario with her husband John, helping her find treasures that are not always on the beaten track.

more Muskoka magic

- In the fall, the Island Queen boards at the Parry Sound Town Dock at 2 p.m. www.island-queen.com, 1-800-506-2628.
- Johnston's Cranberry Marsh is open year-round. www.cranberry.ca, (705) 762-3203.
- For a spectacular view of fall colours by air, book a sightseeing excursion on Georgian Bay Airways in Parry Sound. www.georgianbayairways.com, 1-800-786-1704.
- Stay in hotels and motels in town or resorts just outside town including the Jolly Roger Inn (www.jollyrogerinn.com, 1-800-638-5883) and Resort Tapatoo (www.tapatoo.com, 1-800-461-5410).
- Fall is a great time to hike, bike, canoe or camp in Algonquin Provincial Park. There are also resorts within the park's boundaries www.algonquinpark.on.ca, (705) 633-5572.
- Combine a magnificent one- or two-night fall cruise aboard the Wenonah or the RMS Segwun – the oldest coal-fired operating steamship in North America – with accommodations at the Delta Sherwood, Windermere House or Clevelands House. www.segwun.com, (705) 687-6667.
- Climb the 25 m high (82 ft.) Dorset Fire Tower overlooking Lake of Bays for an 810 sq. km (310 sq. mi.) viewing radius of autumn's finery. www.algonquinhighlands.ca, (705) 489-2379.
- The Bala Cranberry Festival is October 15–17 www.balacranberryfestival.on.ca
- Muskoka Studio Tour is September 25, 26 www.muskoka.com/tour
- Other websites to help you to get the most out of your Muskoka vacation are: www.discovermuskoka.ca, (or call 1-800-267-9700) and www.ontariotravel.net
- And if you want to stay a while longer in the Parry Sound area, check out www.town.parry-sound.on.ca, [(705) 746-2101] and Rainbow Country Travel Association at www.rainbowcountry.com, 1-800-465-6655 and www.ontariotravel.net

great escapes



Rideau has a lock on history and beauty

—Cathy Bennett

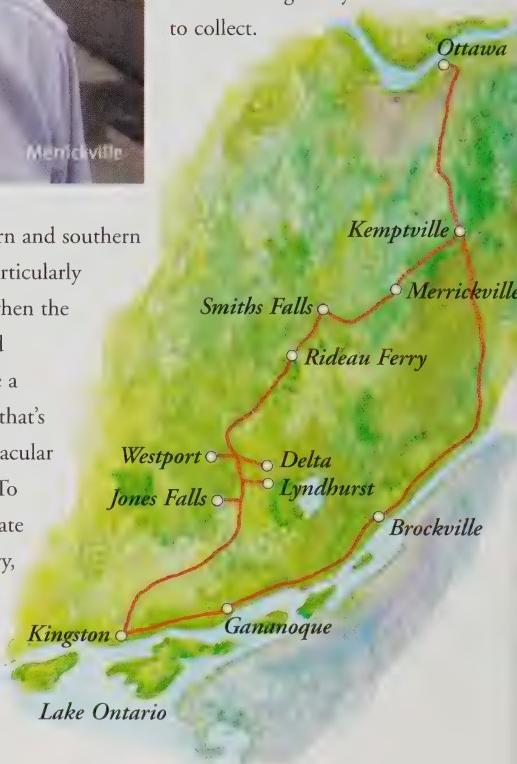
Spanning a magnificent combination of lakes, rivers, early settlement routes, and historic cities and villages, the area along the St. Lawrence River and Rideau Canal offers a superb combination of Ontario heritage and stunning fall scenery.

(continued on next page)

great escapes



many charming villages and towns at lockstations where most of the locks are still hand-operated, much as they were in 1832 when construction on the canal was completed. Highlights include a 19th century lockmaster's house and blacksmith shop in Jones Falls, the recently restored Old Stone Mill Museum in Delta, and an 'antique alley' near Rideau Ferry that will delight anyone who loves to collect.



Of course, you can pick up this 'trip back in time' anywhere in the region, but one area that's well worth exploring is the Thousand Islands – Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve.

An ancient land bridge that provides for plant and animal migrations, the Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve connects the Canadian Shield of the Algonquin Region with the mountainous Adirondack Region.

The Biosphere Reserve covers approximately 1,500 sq. km (579 sq. mi.) with boundaries forming a rough natural triangle between Brockville, Gananoque and Westport.

Home to flora and fauna at the

limits of both northern and southern ranges, the Arch is particularly beautiful in the fall when the mix of coniferous and deciduous trees create a fiery autumn display that's one of the most spectacular in Ontario. To fully appreciate this fall finery, take a drive along the Thousand Islands Parkway, the Rideau

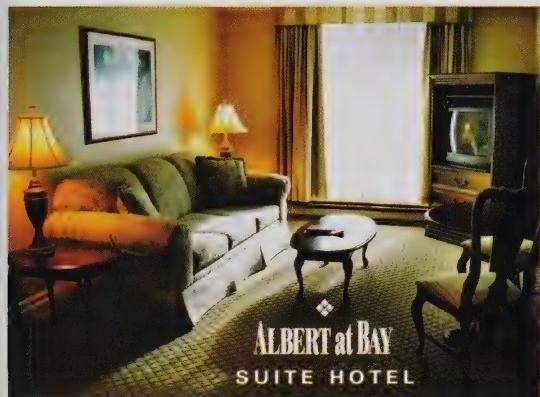
Heritage Route or enjoy a trek on the Rideau Trail – the second longest hiking trail in Ontario, which winds all the way from Kingston to Ottawa.

As you follow the Rideau Canal, you'll also be treated to

Many thanks to Jim Franchetto, Environmental Program Supervisor for the Thousand Islands – Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve, for providing inOntario with background on the Frontenac Arch. For more information, please visit www.biospherecanada.ca/reserves/tblsdfrontenac_arcl/

absolutely comfortable

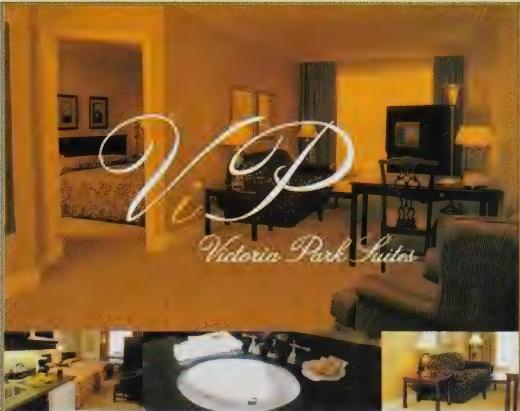
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HISTORY stops

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www.hauntedwalk.com, (613) 549-6366.

- Kingston's Bellevue House National Historical Site.

www.tourism.kingstoncanada.com

(613) 548-4415.

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(www.rideauboattours.com).

- Lyndhurst is home to Ontario's oldest bridge (circa 1856–57).

- Merrickville is home to many artists and craftspeople who open their doors for an annual studio tour from September 25–26 and October 2–3.

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www.ontariotravel.net,

www.sharekingston.com or

1-888-855-4555.

- To find out more about places to visit and stay along the Rideau Canal,

visit www.rideaufriends.com,

(or call (613) 283-5810) and

www.rideau-info.com



Fort Henry, Kingston



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Ottawa's galleries and museums housing the finest collections in the country. Historic sites and monuments around every corner. A diverse selection of fine restaurants and boutiques. And of course, Mother Nature's festival of colours in Gatineau Park during Fall Rhapsody. Visit online to discover all the exciting events Ottawa has to offer this autumn and for details on Ottawa Getaways including arts, culture, family, culinary and entertainment packages.

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A trail of two rivers

—Cathy Bennett

Aptly described as a ‘trail of two rivers’ – the Ottawa Valley is a storied drive through history that takes you over hills ablaze with colour, and into the dales that form the watersheds of the Bonnechere and Madawaska rivers. Known for its hospitality, the ‘Valley’ has many points of interest, but a couple well worth putting on your touring itinerary are Bonnechere Provincial Park and the Bonnechere Caves.

The Ottawa Valley *is* hospitality

Featuring one of the best interpretive programs in the Ontario parks system, Bonnechere Provincial Park has woodland campsites, beaches, a nature viewing platform, and something for just about everyone in the family.

One of the best ways to take in the kaleidoscope of fall colours while getting acquainted with the park's natural features and rich logging history, is on the Walks of Little Bonnechere. This natural treasure is 10 hikes of varying difficulty that will take you to places like Basin Depot and Omaniques Mill.

In September, special events are planned for every weekend. Park Superintendent Jim Fraser told *inOntario* they'll include the September 25 Dig & Jig – a popular annual event consisting of an archeological dig at the Lafleur Homestead, where you can talk to a licensed archaeologist and see a

demonstration on how to clean and catalogue artefacts, followed by a rousing evening with 'Valley' fiddlers! Superintendent Fraser also highly recommends the

Pembroke Old Time Fiddle & Step Dance

Championships, which draws competitors from all over North America. (Labour Day Weekend, September 4–6.)

Named a Top Natural Outdoor Site by Attractions Canada, the Bonnechere Caves are located near Eganville, a former logging town that is considered one of the prettiest in the 'Valley.' Since the tender age of 12, owner Chris Hinsperger has been guiding visitors through the twisting passages and colourfully lit stalactites of these caves.

Geologists say formed the floor of an underground sea five-million years ago. The caves have one of the best collections of fossils from the Ordovician time period you'll find anywhere, and

Hinsperger says "we love to discuss them endlessly with visitors on our one hour tour."



MORE WAYS TO VIEW the Valley

- Come aboard a refurbished logging tug for a cruise on the Kiamiskie and Madawaska rivers and the Opeongo Marsh – one of the richest wetlands in Ontario. If the tug looks familiar, it's because it was on the last issue of the Canadian dollar bill.
- For great photo ops, follow the route of the pioneers along the Opeongo line to the hamlet of Rockingham where the only remnant of the 'goat' is St. Edmund's Anglican Church. Or visit the ghost town of Balduava where an old grist mill, sawdust furnace and abandoned buildings lean precariously under the weight of time.
- Do some end-of-season golfing, ride the rapids in a kayak, and delight in fall's colours on the Millennium Trail in Petawawa. Visit www.petawawaontario.ca or phone (613) 687-5536.
- Go online to check out the Ottawa Valley Visitor Information Centre www.ottawavalley.org or phone 1-800-757-6580.
- Bonnechere Provincial Park www.bonnecherepark.on.ca or www.ontarioparks.com is the only park offering journeys of Discovery cultural heritage getaways www.journeysofdiscovery.ca
- Bonnechere Caves are open through Thanksgiving Weekend (October 9-11). For more information, visit www.bonnecherecaves.com or phone 1-800-469-2283.
- Shrine Hill Scenic Lookout near Wilno – Canada's oldest Polish settlement – provides a panoramic view of Round and Golden lakes and the spectacular fall display of the 'Valley'. www.valleyexplore.com
- There are a wide variety of accommodations in the Ottawa Valley including motels, resorts, lodges and many B&Bs and country inns. www.ottawavalley.org
- For all your travel needs, go to www.ontariotravel.net or phone 1-800-ONTARIO.

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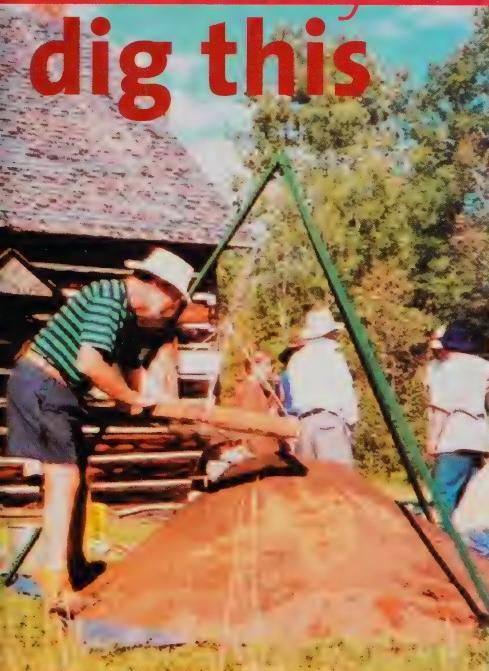
SPECIAL DATES:

Cinéfest	Sept. 18-26
La Nuit sur l'étagne	Oct. 23-25
Science North	
Magic: The Science of Illusion	Oct. 9 - Jan 2
Dynamic Earth	
Halloween Tunnel of Terror	Oct 26-31



modern day treasure hunters

dig this



If you love history and you're handy with a trowel, here's a chance to dig up the dirt on 19th century life. Just head to the Lafleur Homestead in Bonnechere River Provincial Park and be an archaeologist for a weekend on the same ground European pioneers worked up a sweat. Sure your knees will get dirty, but it's all part of the thrill of the hunt. Push aside soil – the same soil once used to grow the food that fed the early settlers – and pull out household items used by our Ontario ancestors. And if by chance you dig up an artefact rivalling King Tut's sarcophagus, there will always be an expert close by to clean it and put it in a museum for you.

To participate in Fall Weekend Digs at the Lafleur Homestead, you must be 18 years of age or older. Simply call (613) 757-2103 to book your archaeological wilderness adventure.

great escapes

Planes, trains and automobiles

– Cathy Bennett

As you drive along Lake Superior's spectacular and rugged shoreline, with the lake in all its glory on one side and granite outcrops on the other, the first streaks of flaming red mark the start of the landscape awash of brilliant colours.

And although there are many fascinating points of interests along the Trans Canada Highway, such as Batchawana Bay and Wawa, you won't want to miss "the granddaddy of all train excursions" – the Agawa Canyon Train Tour. Part of the Algoma Central Railway, it departs from Sault Ste. Marie, affectionately called 'The Soo.' But before you climb aboard, you might want to spend some time exploring 'The Soo.'

To fully understand the significance of the Sault Canal – built in 1895 and considered an engineering marvel in its time – take the two hour narrated Lock Tours

Canada cruise through the lock system, which bypasses rapids and allows ocean-going vessels to move between Lake Superior and Lake Huron. For another trip into history, consider a visit to the Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre, voted as one of the best indoor attractions in Ontario.

Housed in an aircraft hangar, the centre is dedicated to the important role bushplane pilots played in opening up the north and fighting forest fires – and it's filled to the rafters with vintage planes, restored forest fire-fighting equipment and other artefacts and attractions.

On the Agawa Canyon Tour, you'll wind your way through 183 km (114 mi.) of pristine wilderness and fall colours that almost defy description. In addition to one-day excursions, the railway offers packages that combine stop-offs and stays at several lodges, including the fabulous Errington's Wilderness Resort.



Photo courtesy of the Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre

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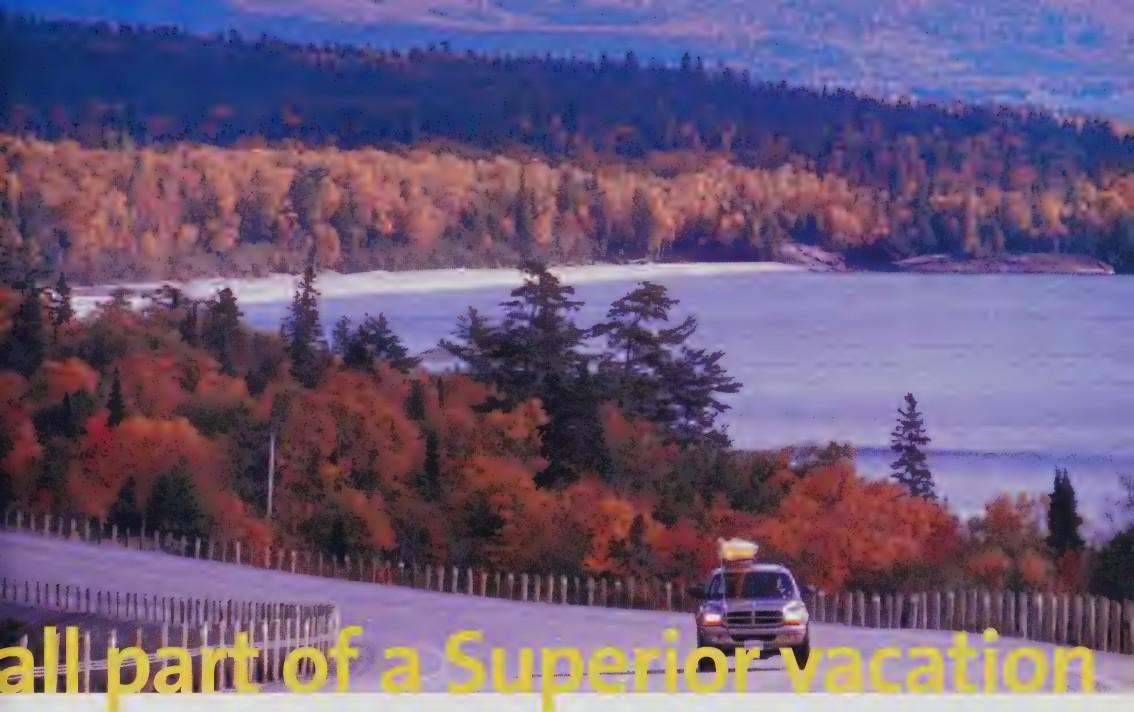
in Ontario



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ONTARIO TOURISM MARKETING PARTNERSHIP
5700 EXPLORER DR
MISSISSAUGA ON L4W 9Z9



all part of a Superior vacation

Errington's Wilderness Resort, which is also accessible by float plane, is located in the Chapleau Crown Game Preserve – the largest one in the world – where proprietor Al Errington arranges guided nature viewing tours for his guests. When *inOntario* spoke to Errington, he told

us fall visitors can observe plenty of black bear and moose and many birds of prey, including bald eagles and osprey. In September, the cool, crisp nights also make for excellent gazing at the Aurora Borealis.



come see our sites

To find out more about Sault Ste. Marie attractions, visit www.sault-canada.com or call 1-800-461-6020.

For the Canadian Bushplane Heritage Centre, visit www.bushplane.com or call (705) 945-6242.

For more information about the Agawa Canyon Tour and Errington's Wilderness Resort, visit www.algomacentralrailway.com (1-800-242-9287) and www.wildernessisland.com. (May–Sept., (705) 884-2215, Oct.–Apr. (705) 946-2010).

The first *push* was for gold.



Today, it's pure adrenaline.

Up here, the ride is wild. The hiking is as rugged as you want to make it. Mountain biking will keep you on the edge of your seat. And the off-roading is...well...let's just say the emphasis is definitely on "off."

The rapids and fast water are enough to put even the most avid kayaker to the test, while canoeists can immerse themselves in silent lagoons and glistening bays.

Get your heart pounding and feel full of life. Book your next adrenaline rush in Manitouwadge. Come play in the extreme.

877-826-PLAY or visit
www.playintheextreme.com

Manitouwadge
play in the extreme

A stairway to heaven

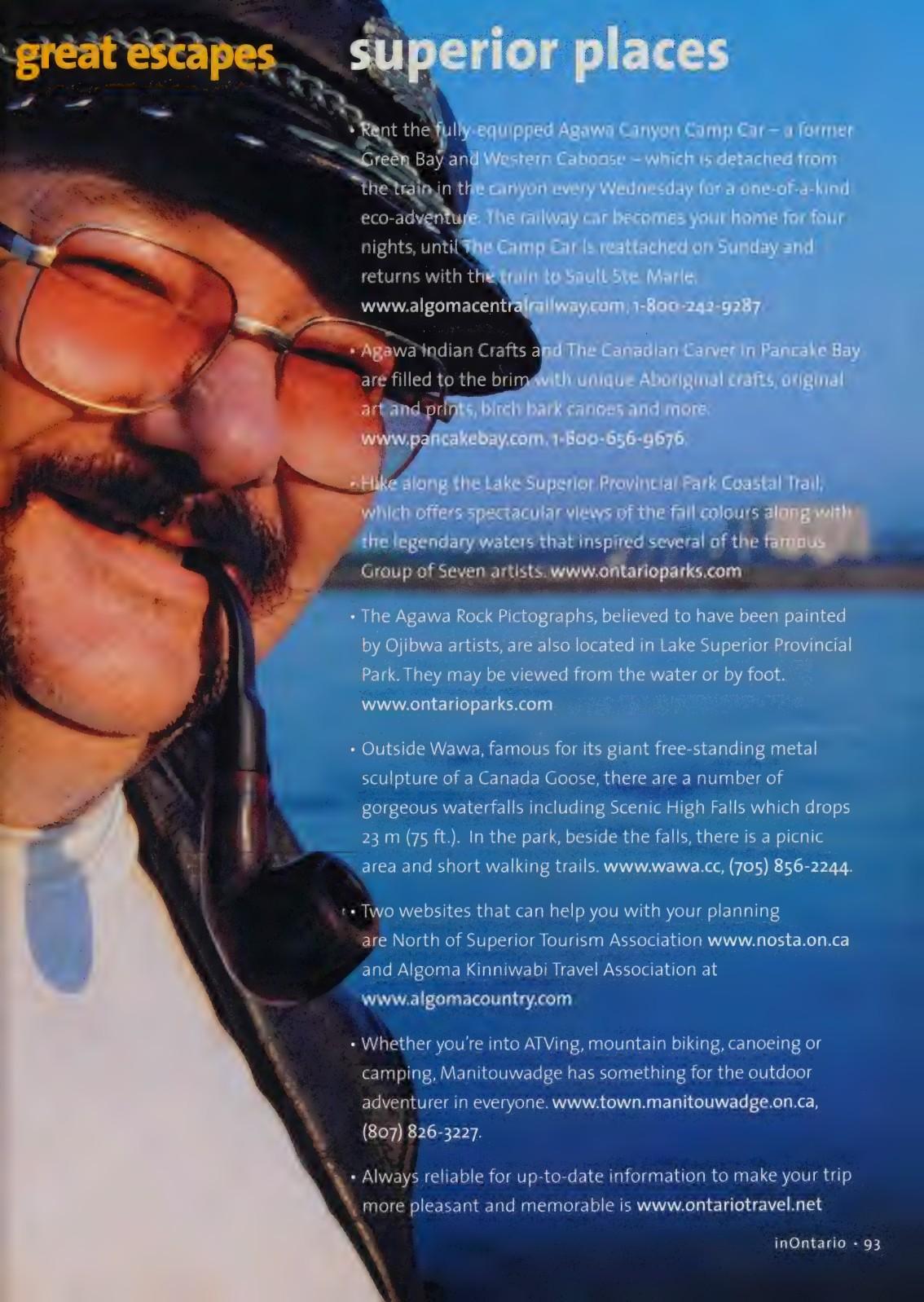
Up! Up! Up!

Have you ever wanted to see what birds soar over every day? Just step up the Dorset Scenic Observation Tower and take in the most awesome sight in the province: an enormous forest glowing in gold, orange and red. You'll see this multiplied a hundred-fold, over thousands of acres from this perch in the sky.

Look through the tower's viewfinders and pretend you're a bird, flying over Dorset into the horizon.

Wait for sunset and watch nature brushing the sky in another radiant palette. Thank heavens for digital cameras, a roll of film may not be enough.

Call 705-489-2379 or visit www.algonquinhighlands.ca for more information on the Dorset Scenic Observation Tower and leave, like never before, so jealous of our feathered friends.



great escapes superior places

- Rent the fully equipped Agawa Canyon Camp Car – a former Green Bay and Western Caboose – which is detached from the train in the canyon every Wednesday for a one-of-a-kind eco-adventure. The railway car becomes your home for four nights, until The Camp Car is reattached on Sunday and returns with the train to Sault Ste. Marie.
www.algomacentralrailway.com, 1-800-242-9287
- Agawa Indian Crafts and The Canadian Carver in Pancake Bay are filled to the brim with unique Aboriginal crafts, original art and prints, birch bark canoes and more.
www.pancakebay.com, 1-600-656-9676
- Hike along the Lake Superior Provincial Park Coastal Trail, which offers spectacular views of the fall colours along with the legendary waters that inspired several of the famous Group of Seven artists. www.ontarioparks.com
- The Agawa Rock Pictographs, believed to have been painted by Ojibwa artists, are also located in Lake Superior Provincial Park. They may be viewed from the water or by foot.
www.ontarioparks.com
- Outside Wawa, famous for its giant free-standing metal sculpture of a Canada Goose, there are a number of gorgeous waterfalls including Scenic High Falls which drops 23 m (75 ft.). In the park, beside the falls, there is a picnic area and short walking trails. www.wawa.cc, (705) 856-2244.
- Two websites that can help you with your planning are North of Superior Tourism Association www.nosta.on.ca and Algoma Kinniwbabi Travel Association at www.algomacountry.com
- Whether you're into ATVirg, mountain biking, canoeing or camping, Manitouwadge has something for the outdoor adventurer in everyone. www.town.manitouwadge.on.ca, (807) 826-3227.
- Always reliable for up-to-date information to make your trip more pleasant and memorable is www.ontariotravel.net

looking ahead to winter

It's shaping up to be another fun-filled winter in Ontario, so start your planning now and book the activities you love. Whether you prefer skating the longest rink in the world, strolling at colourful light festivals, snowmobiling through the great outdoors or relaxing and enjoying one of the many Winterlicious deals at Toronto restaurants, you'll find thrilling activities at every turn.

Browse the activities on these pages, visit them online and plan your vacation now so you're not disappointed later. Experience the comfort and joy of a winter adventure in Ontario. Log on to www.ontariotravel.net for winter planning ideas or visit www.ontariotravel.net/outdoor for more outdoor fun.

Resorts with 'you' in mind

Curl up in a cosy cabin. Soak in the hot tub of a romantic suite. Trek backwoods trails on snowshoes. Ontario offers all this and more in over 200 resorts, each encapsulating its own romantic and adventurous flavour. For the resort designed with you in mind, visit Resorts Ontario at www.resorts-ontario.com or call 1-800-363-7227 and don't make Ontario's resorts be your last resort.





Plan now so that you are ready to have fun when snow and ice transform Ontario into the world's coolest winter playground. Ottawa's annual Winterlude festival sees more than 600,000 skaters on the Rideau Canal, the longest rink in the world. Take in thrilling ice sculpting competitions and warm up to a dramatic fire show (February 4–20).

Winterlude www.winterlude.ca

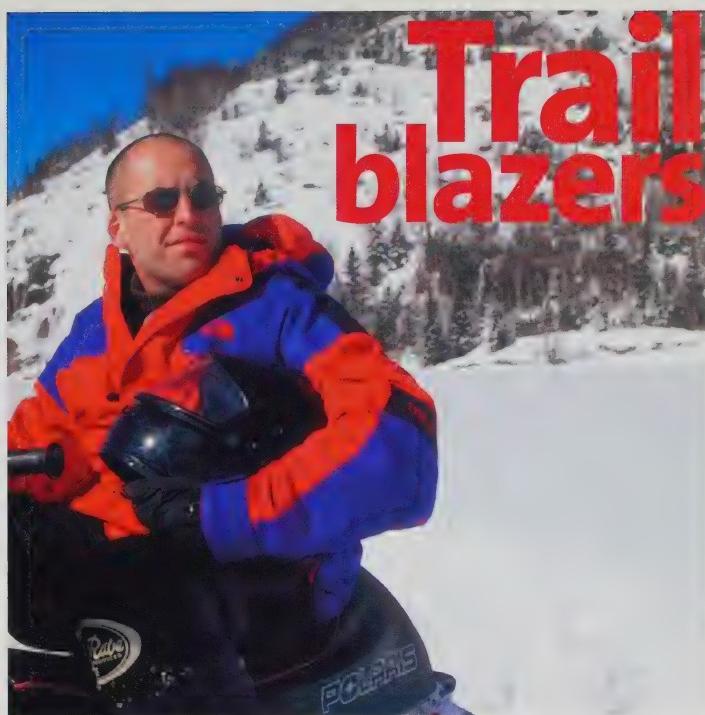
Celebrate the season with Bon Soo in Sault Ste. Marie and participate in such side-splitting activities as the polar bear swim and the snow canoe race (January 28–February 6).

Bon Soo www.bonsoo.on.ca

Chill out with festivities, food and fun in Toronto. *Wintercity* is the place for cool outdoor fun for 14 straight days (January 28–February 10). A highlight of this fun-for-all festival, *Winterlicious* provides a perfect opportunity to sample Toronto's finest cuisine.

Wintercity
www.toronto.ca/special_events/wintercity

Book your icy winter vacation now for good deals, the best hotels and the most fun. Search for more outstanding winter events at www.ontariotravel.net



Renowned as a snowmobile paradise, Ontario offers world-class groomed trail riding for snowmobilers of all ages, and experience levels. It boasts more trails than any other region in the world. Cruising through snow-blanketed forests and over snow-packed hills will always be thrilling, whether it's your first or your fiftieth time. Follow the well-marked trails to stay safe and see something new every day: rustic barns, stone fences, pine trees dressed in snow, wooden bridges

and even the Northern Lights. Keep following these well-groomed trails right up to your cabin and enjoy après sledding. Just trying it out for

a weekend? Consider renting a snowmobile from a resort and exploring this snowy Ontario landscape, an inspiration for the prettiest of postcards.

Rev up for another season of snowmobiling. Get all the information you need and more by calling 1-800-ONTARIO

or by visiting www.ontariotravel.net for a copy of the 'Snowmobile Paradise Ontario' guide. Or visit the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs

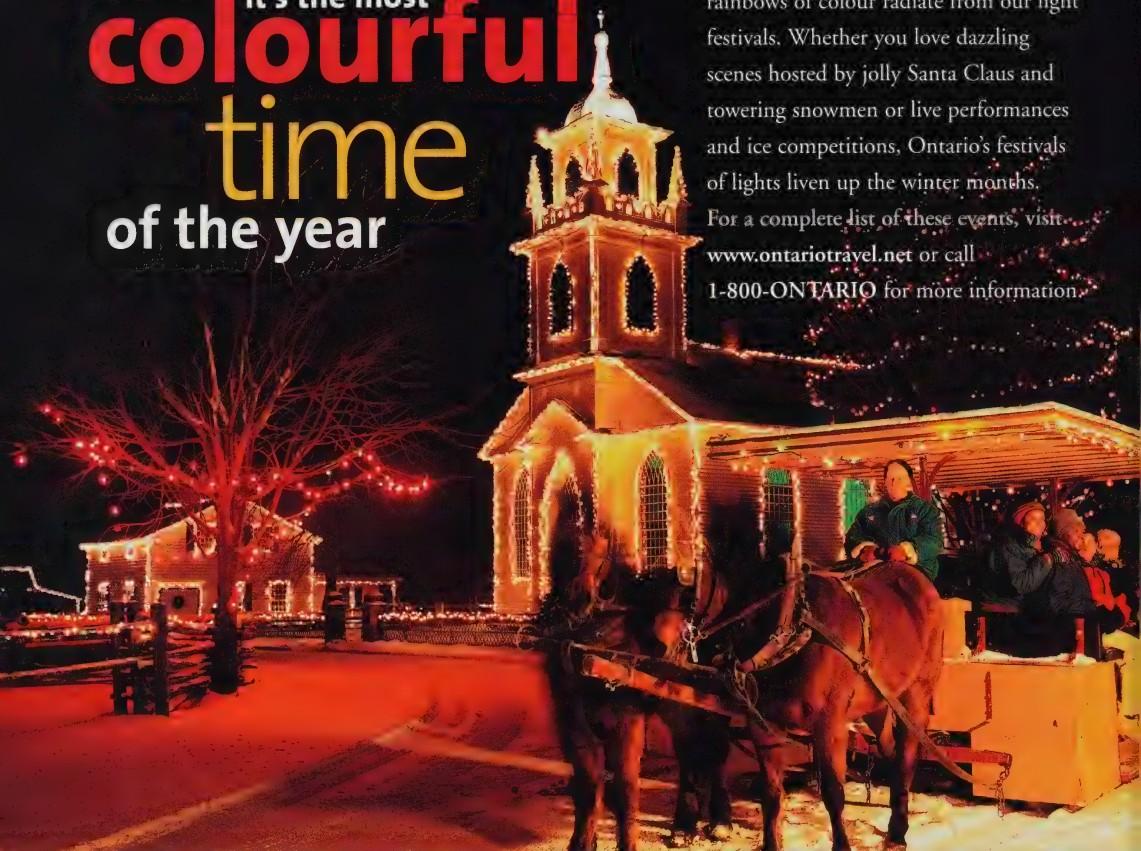
website at www.ofsc.on.ca

Find an ideal place to create a winter wonderland memory at www.resorts-ontario.com

**more trails
than any
other region
in the world**

looking ahead

it's the most colourful time of the year



Alight at Night, Morrisburg

www.uppercanadavillage.com/night.htm

Cavalcade of Lights, Toronto

www.city.toronto.on.ca/special_events/cavalcade_lights

Christmas Lights Across Canada, Ottawa

www.canadascapital.gc.ca/xmaslights/index_e.asp

Festival of Lights at

Cullen Gardens and Miniature Village, Whitby
www.cullengardens.com

When the sun sets, electrifying rainbows of colour radiate from our light festivals. Whether you love dazzling scenes hosted by jolly Santa Claus and towering snowmen or live performances and ice competitions, Ontario's festivals of lights liven up the winter months.

For a complete list of these events, visit www.ontariotravel.net or call

1-800-ONTARIO for more information.

Festival of Northern Lights, Owen Sound

www.city.owen-sound.on.ca/festival

Lakeside Festival of Lights, Burlington

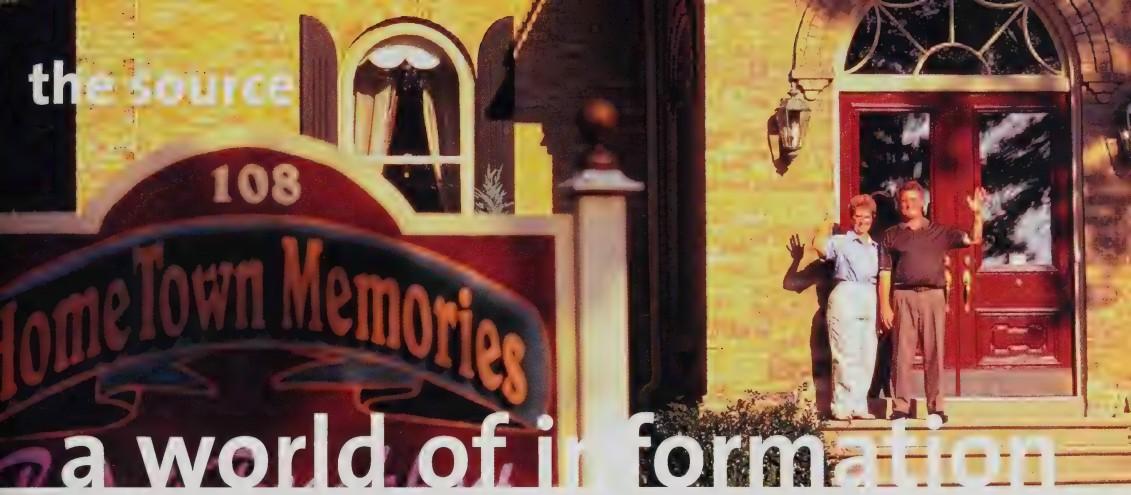
www.burlingtonfestivaloflights.com

Telus Celebration of Lights, Sarnia

www.celebrationofflights.com

Winter Festival of Lights, Niagara Falls

www.niagarafallstourism.com/wfol



There is so much to do in Ontario and *inOntario* can help you to get the most out of your vacation.

Whether you have your mind set on where you'd like to visit, or are looking for ideas, we recommend some specific sources to help you plan your Ontario getaway. If you need any information on travelling in Ontario – weather, highway road conditions and travel tips – we're just a mouse click or phone call away, 24 hours a day and seven days a week. When you are ready to plan, we have friendly travel counsellors ready to help at 1-800-ONTARIO (668-2746), and don't miss the searchable events database at www.ontariotravel.net

species and everything else needed for an enjoyable (and successful) angling expedition, whether you are a first-timer, or out on the water at every opportunity.

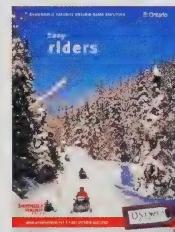
Resource Guide



Find your important destination information all in one place. Whether you are looking for specific information on hotels, or other accommodations, attractions or adventures, this guide features easy-to-understand listings complete with addresses, contact numbers, and websites.

Snowmobile Paradise Ontario Guide

Look no further than this guide for trail information, snowmobile resorts and rules and regulations to make



your great sled-ding getaway easier to plan and more exciting to experience.

Official Road Map of Ontario

Always make sure that you have the latest Official Road Map of Ontario, created by the Ministry of Transportation and the Ministry of Tourism and Recreation. The latest edition of the map is available by calling 1-800-ONTARIO, or visiting www.ontariotravel.net



Fishing Ontario

This guide has the tips, fishing spots, information on Ontario

Sainte-Marie among the Hurons

Midland, Ontario



An Attraction of the
Ministry of Tourism
and Recreation

www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca (705) 526-7838

Sainte-Marie among the Hurons was the 17th-century headquarters for the French Jesuit mission to the Wendat people. A nationally significant site, Sainte-Marie now stands recreated on its original location where the compelling story is brought to life once again.

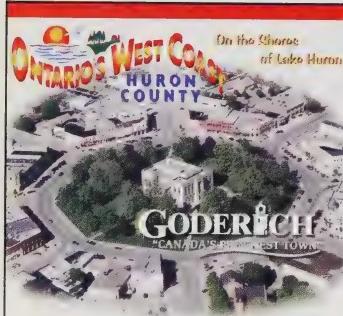
Open daily to October 17.

Fall & Christmas Events

Georgian Bay Native Friendship Centre Pow Wow
Sainte-Marie Park: September 11 and 12

Thanksgiving Arts & Crafts: October 9 and 10

First Light: December 2, 3, 4



Ontario's West Coast is a patch-work quilt of rural Canadian towns, farm landscapes and parks stretching along 60 miles of Lake Huron coastline. Goderich, once named Canada's prettiest town, boasts three beaches with an old-fashioned boardwalk and the Huron Historic Gaol, a national historic site. Come coast a while with us.

www.town.goderich.on.ca

CONTACT TOURISM GODERICH:
1 800 280-7637

OR VISIT:
www.ontariowestcoast.com

Reason No. 3687

GUIDED TOURS

This is just one of the many reasons to visit Guelph this year. From heritage to music to shopping and parks Guelph offers so much to do...

Getaway to Guelph in the Fall

Make plans now to attend one of our exciting fall events...

Guelph Jazz Festival • Sep 8-12
Eden Mills Writers' Festival • Sep 12
Great Canadian Brewing Festival • Sep 23-25
Canadian Songwriters' Festival • Oct 1-2
Guelph Studio Tour • Oct 15-17
Fair November • Nov 18-21

Guelph
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DISCOVER THE GRAND RIVER & LAKE ERIE, EXPLORE OUR RICH HERITAGE & ENJOY OUR UNIQUE SMALL TOWN CHARM.

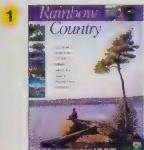
Discover the Grand River & Lake Erie, Explore Our Rich Heritage & Enjoy Our Unique Small Town Charm.

For Your Free Experience Guide: 1-800-863-9607
www.TourismHaldimand.com

the source

Travel Organizations

For more on what to see and do in Ontario, simply order free copies of the following guides by visiting online or by calling them today.

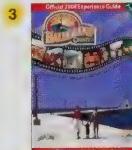


Rainbow Country

2004 Discovery Guide

1.800.465.6655

www.rainbowcountry.com



Haldimand County

Official 2004 Experience Guide

1-800-863-9607

www.tourismhaldimand.com



Tourism Hamilton

Experience Hamilton Visitor's

Guide 2004

1-800-263-8590

www.hamiltonundiscovered.com

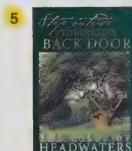
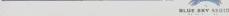


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www.ontariosnearnorth.on.ca

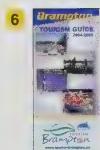


The Hills of Headwaters

Step Outside Toronto's Back Door

1-800-332-9744

www.thehillsofheadwaters.com



Tourism Brampton

2004/2005 Brampton Tourism Guide

Call (905) 874-2664

E-mail: tourism@city.brampton.on.ca

www.tourismbrampton.ca



Greater Toronto Area



Southwestern Ontario



Niagara Falls and Region



Central Ontario



Eastern Ontario



Ottawa



Northern Ontario



the source

Travel information

YEAR-ROUND CENTRES

Barrie, (Hwy. 400 & Molson Park Dr. East)
21 Molson Park Dr. East L4N 9A9
Tel: (705) 725-7280 Fax: (705) 725-7285
May 15 - June 11 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
June 12 - Sept. 5 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sept. 6 - Nov. 30 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Dec. 1 - Mar. 31 7 a.m.-5 p.m.
April 1 - May 14 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Cornwall*, 903 Brookdale Ave. K6J 4P3
Tel: (613) 933-2420 Fax: (613) 933-3387
May 15 - 26 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
May 27 - June 9
Sat. - Wed. 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Thurs. - Fri. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
June 10 - Sept. 5 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sept. 6 - May 14 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Fort Erie*, 350 Bertie St., Unit 1 L2A 6S6
Tel: (905) 871-3505 Fax: (905) 871-6461
May 15 - June 11
Sun. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
June 12 - Sept. 5 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sept. 6 - May 14 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Fort Frances*, 400 Central Ave. P9A 1X8
Tel: (807) 274-7566 Fax: (807) 274-7870
Up to May 15 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
May 16 - Sept. 5 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sept. 6 - May 14 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Niagara Falls*, 5355 Stanley Ave. L2E 7C2
Tel: (905) 358-3221 Fax: (905) 358-6441
May 15 - June 11
Sun. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
June 12 - Sept. 5 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sept. 6 - Oct. 9
Sun. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Oct. 10 - May 14 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

St. Catharines*, (Westbound QEW at east end of Garden City Skyway)
RR 4, Niagara-on-the-Lake L0S 1J0
Tel: (905) 684-6354 Fax: (905) 684-3634
May 15 - June 11
Sun. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
June 12 - Sept. 5 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sept. 6 - Oct. 9
Sun. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Oct. 10 - May 14 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sarnia*, Blue Water Bridge
1415 Venetian Blvd. N7T 7W7
Tel: (519) 344-7403 Fax: (519) 332-4576
May 15 - June 11
Sun. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
June 12 - Sept. 5 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sept. 6 - Oct. 9
Sun. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Oct. 10 - May 14 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sault Ste. Marie*, 261 Queen St. West P6A 1A3
Tel: (705) 945-6941 Fax: (705) 945-6943
May 15 - June 11 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
June 12 - Sept. 5 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sept. 6 - Oct. 17 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Oct. 18 - May 14 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Toronto, Eaton Centre, 220 Yonge St.
Level 1, PO Box 104 M5B 2H1
Fax: (416) 314-5901
All Year (except Good Friday, Easter Sunday,
Christmas Day)
Mon. - Fri. 10 a.m.-9 p.m.
Sat. 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sun. noon-5 p.m.

Windsor Huron*, Ambassador Bridge
1235 Huron Church Rd. N9C 2K6
Tel: (519) 973-1310 Fax: (519) 973-1313
May 15 - June 11
Sun. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
June 12 - Sept. 5 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sept. 6 - Oct. 9
Sun. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Oct. 10 - May 14 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Windsor Park*, 110 Park St. East N9A 3A9
Tel: (519) 973-1338 Fax: (519) 973-1341
May 15 - June 11
Sun. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
June 12 - Sept. 5 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sept. 6 - Oct. 9
Sun. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
Oct. 10 - May 14 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

SEASONAL CENTRES

Hawkesbury, Highway 417, RR 1
Chute a Blondeau K0B 1B0
Tel: (613) 674-2000 Fax: (613) 674-2689
May 15 - 21 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
May 22 - June 10

Sun. - Thurs. 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
June 11 - Sept. 5 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sept. 6 - Oct. 11 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Hill Island*, Highway 137 (Lansdowne)
RR 1, Hill Island K0E 1L0
Tel: (613) 659-2108 Fax: (613) 659-2102
May 15 - 26 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
May 27 - June 9
Sat. - Wed. 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Thurs. - Fri. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
June 10 - Sept. 5 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sept. 6 - Oct. 11 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Lancaster, Highway 401 & Highway 2
RR 1 K0C 1N0
Tel: (613) 347-3498 Fax: (613) 347-3435
May 15 - 21 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.
May 22 - June 10
Sun. - Thurs. 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Fri. - Sat. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
June 11 - Sept. 5 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sept. 6 - Oct. 11 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Kenora, (Hwy. 17 at ON/MB Border)
c/o General Delivery, Keewatin P0X 1C0
Tel: (807) 468-2495 Fax: (204) 349-8339
May 15 - June 10 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
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Sept. 6 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

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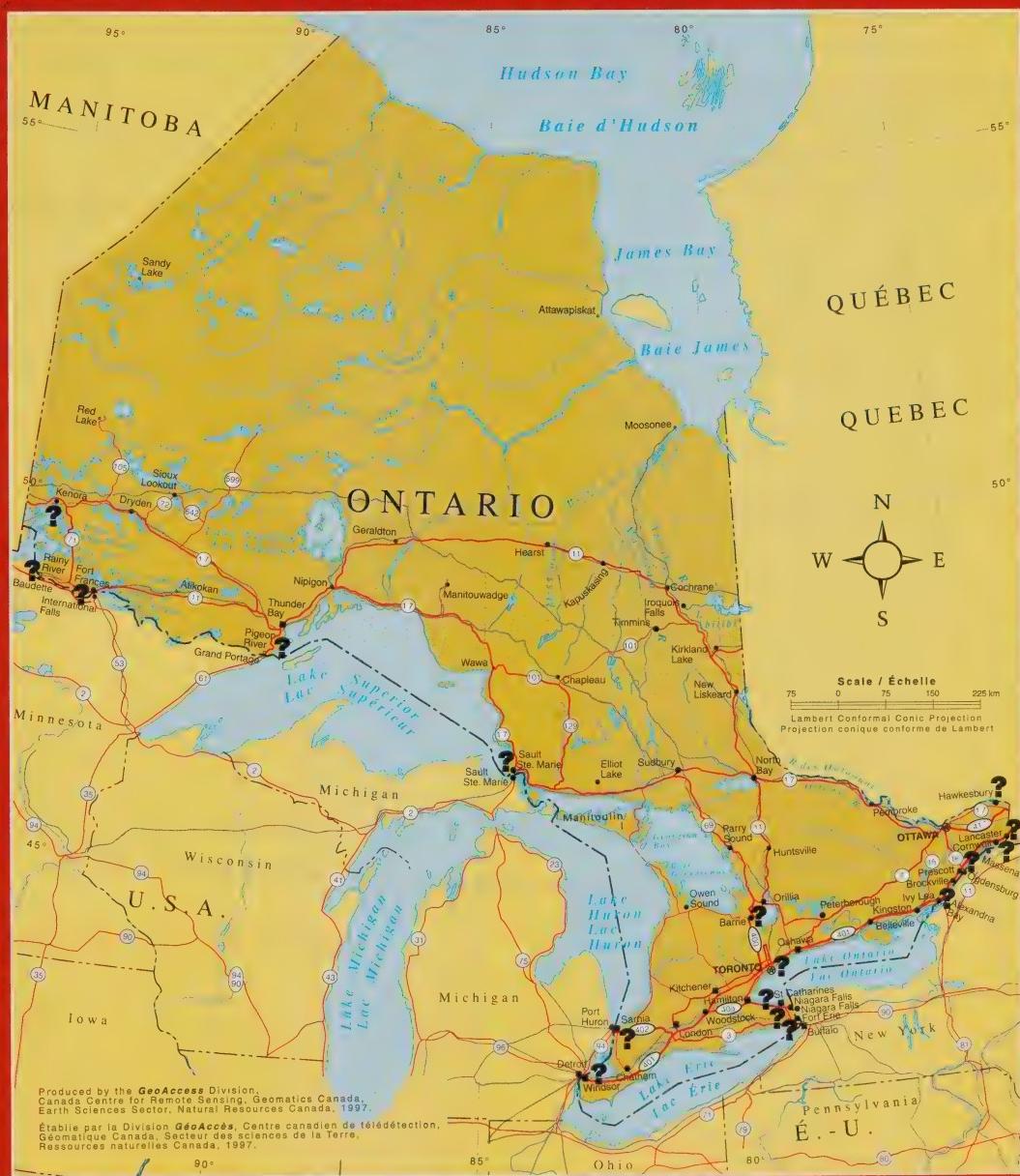
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advertisers' index

Adventure Lodge	102
Albert at Bay Suite Hotel	83
Americana Conference Resort and Spa	31
ARC THE HOTEL	85
Art Gallery of Ontario	20
Bayview-Wildwood Resorts	43
Bear Trail Inn Couples Resort	43
Best Western International	2
Best Western Victoria Park Suites	83
Blue Mountain Resort	45
Cartier Place Suite Hotel	83
Choice Hotels Canada	Inside Back Cover
City of Brampton	99
City of St. Catharines	28
CN Tower	55
Cobourg, Town of	61
Convention and Visitors Bureau of Windsor, Essex County and Pelee Island	9
Days Inn Owen Sound Hotel and Convention Centre	55, 102
Deerhurst Resort	103
Doon Heritage Crossroads	103
Doubletree Resort Lodge and Spa Fallsview	31
Embassy Suites Hotel	29
Greater Sudbury Tourism	89
Green Acres Inn	102
Grey Bruce Travel Challenge	11
Guelph Visitor and Convention Services	98
Haldimand County Tourism: Caledonia, Cayuga, Dunnville, Hagersville, Jarvis, Selkirk	98, 99
Hilton Niagara Falls Fallsview	31
Hockley Valley Resort and Spa	43
Holiday Inn By The Falls	30
Holiday Inn Express® Hotels	51
Holiday Inn Fort Erie / Niagara Convention Centre	55, 102
Holiday Inn On King	49
Holiday Inn® Hotels and Resorts	51
Howard Johnson Hotel By The Falls	29
Howard Johnson Hotels of Ontario	55
Les Suites Hotel Ottawa	85
Log Cabin Inn	102
Manitouwadge Economic Development Corporation	92
McMichael Canadian Art Collection	16
Municipality of Port Hope	61
Muskoka Tourism / Muskoka Golf Trail	37
Niagara Falls Courtyard by Marriott	29
Niagara Falls Marriott Fallsview	29
Niagara Grape and Wine Festival	102
Niagara Hospitality Hotels: The Oskes Hotel, Days Inn Lundy's Lane and Days Inn Clifton Hill/Casino	30
Norfolk County Tourism: Simcoe, Port Dover, Delhi, Long Point, Waterford	63
Northumberland County Tourism: Brighton, Cobourg, Colborne, Port Hope, Rice Lake and Trent Hills	61
Nottawasaga Inn Resort	45
Oakville Economic Development Alliance	10
Oakwood Inn Resort, Golf and Spa	103
Oakwood Inn Resort, Golf and Spa – Lakeside Spa	103
Okimot Lodge	102
Old Stone Inn	102
Ontario Parks	59
Ontario's Near North; the Almaguin-Nipissing Travel Association	99

Ontario's North: Thunder Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury, Timmins & North Bay	69
Ontario's West Coast – Goderich and Huron Tourism	98
Ottawa Tourism and Convention Authority	85
Premier Spas of Ontario	45
Quality Hotel & Suites Toronto Airport East	55, 102
Rainbow Country	99
Ramada® Coral Resort Hotel	30
Ramada® Suites and Conference Centre	43
Resorts Ontario	22
Royal Ontario Museum	22
Sainte-Marie among the Hurons – Huronia Historical Parks	98
Sealcliffe Inn	102
Sheraton Fallsview	29
Tourism Sarnia Lambton	104
Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel, Suites & Convention Centre	102
Skyline Tower	30
St. Jacobs County Tourism	104
The Hills of Headwaters Tourism: Caledon, Erin, Orangeville, Dufferin Shelburne and Mono	99
The Victoria Inn	103
Toronto Jazz Live	49
Toronto's Nutcracker Neighbourhood	49
Tourism Hamilton	99
Tourism London	5
Tourism Toronto	23
Travelodge Bracebridge	102
Travelodge® Inns, Hotels and Suites Canada and Thriflodge Canada	31
Trillium Motorcycle Tours	103
Tyrolean Village Resorts	103
Wigamog Inn Resort	43
York Region Tourism	7

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ontario trivia

do you really know Ontario?



Elmira – photo by Mark Tomalty

Welcome to the inaugural edition of Ontario Trivia. Here's your chance to have some fun with interesting facts about Ontario. Stump your friends and family. Simply read the questions and take a guess at the answer. Then, see if you're right by checking at the bottom of the next page. Good luck and happy travels.

Toronto is one of the most multi-cultural cities in the world –

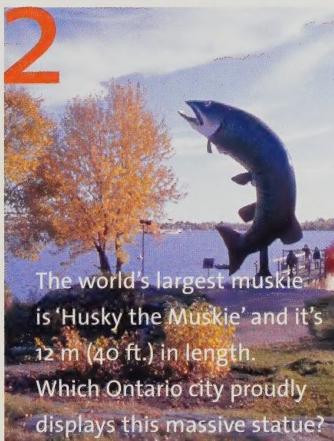
How many different languages are spoken here?

- a) 3
- b) 13
- c) 54
- d) over 100

1



2



The world's largest muskie is 'Husky the Muskie' and it's 12 m (40 ft.) in length.
Which Ontario city proudly displays this massive statue?

3

Which Ontario river is home to more than 80 species of fish?

The Mad River Tea House in Creemore showcases the world's largest collection of what?

4

5



Which Ontario cities host the biggest Bavarian celebration outside of Germany?

ontario trivia

6

Which museum has over 10,000 shoes including Marilyn Monroe's high-heeled red pumps?

The largest Canadian art collection can be found in which gallery?

- a) Royal Ontario Museum
- b) Art Gallery of Ontario
- c) McMichael Canadian Art Collection
- d) National Art Gallery

What is the name of the renowned film festival that shows more than 300 films and is one of the world's largest, second only to Cannes?

How many costumes are in the Stratford Festival warehouse, one of the most extensive theatrical warehouses in North America?



- a) 1,000
- b) 5,000
- c) 30,000
- d) 120,000

10

What is the largest provincial park in Ontario spanning over 2,300,000 hectares (5,500,000 acres)?

(Hint: you'll have to 'bear' an airplane ride to get there)

Which Ontario city has over 500 lakes and rivers within its boundaries?



Which Ontario ship is the oldest coal-fired steamship in North America?

Which hotel lets you dine in a bank vault?

14

What is the name of Ontario's oldest car, now proudly displayed at the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum?

What is the largest provincial park in Ontario spanning over 2,300,000 hectares (5,500,000 acres)?

(Hint: you'll have to 'bear' an airplane ride to get there)

11

15

Which is the largest, coldest and deepest of the Great Lakes?

The Iroquoians called Ontario 'Kanadario,' what does it mean?

The largest golf tee in the world is 2.2 m (7 ft. 4 in.) in length.

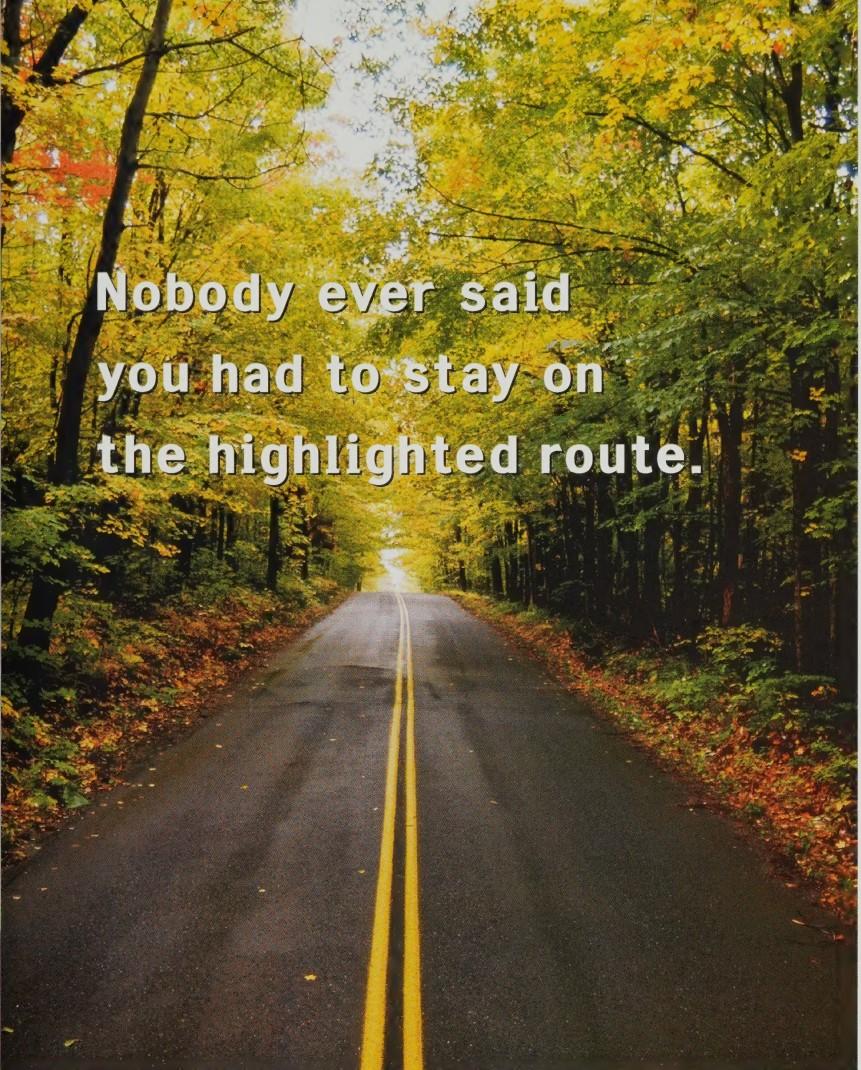
Which Ontario city was it carved in?

17

- a) Aurora
- b) Sarnia
- c) Tobermory
- d) Oshawa

Answers

1. d) Over 100
2. Kenora, Northwestern Ontario
3. The Grand River
4. Teapots
5. Kitchener-Waterloo
6. The Bata Shoe Museum, Toronto
7. d) The National Art Gallery, Ottawa
8. The Toronto International Film Festival
9. c) 30,000
10. Polar Bear Provincial Park in Northeastern Ontario
11. Timmins, one of the largest cities area-wise in North America
12. R.M.S. Segwun in Gravenhurst
13. Dr. Corbett's Inn, Port Hope
14. The 1901 Neff Steam Buggy
15. Lake Superior
16. 'Sparkling Water'
17. c) Tobermory



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- Orillia (3)
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- Ottawa/Kanata
- Ottawa/Smiths Falls
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- Parry Sound
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- Simcoe
- Sudbury (3)
- Thunder Bay (2)
- Timmins
- Toronto (8)
- Toronto/Brampton
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Down a path less wandered

I follow the wind and chance
upon lovely, leafy latticework.

The beauty of nature's shop
floor conjures up the liberated
flight of the maple key that put
down roots, planning wisely for
generations to follow.

But breakfast and the scent
of sizzling trout beckon.

Adieu, my newfound muse.

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